UN DEMINING OFFICIALS IN AFGHANISTAN WELCOME QUEEN NOOR'S PATRONAGE

10 million mines have killed hundreds of thousands of people

United Nations demining officials in Afghanistan welcomed Her Majesty Queen Noor's appointment as patron of the mine banning movement, and called on her "to follow in the footsteps of the late Princess Diana."

"I am very glad to hear about Queen Noor's efforts in banning the use of mines, in continuation of Princess Diana's campaign. We need the support of every peace loving person to protect the innocent people from this danger," Abdul Ghani Asalati, Regional Operations' Director at the United Nations' Mines Action Programme in Kandahar said.

Queen Noor was elected as the Honorary chair of landmines Survivors Network (LSN) and the co-recipient of the 1997 Nobel peace Price awarded to the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), which was also awarded the same prize yesterday.

The ten million mines infesting seven hundred square kilometers of Afghanistan have resulted in hundreds of thousands of civilian causalities.

"Out of the 700 square kilometers, 324 square kilometers are of high priority. In Kandahar alone, which is considered the most affected province, we were able to clear only 50 square kilometers out of 150 square kilometers of high priority land," he added.

High priority land is the term used for heavily populated areas.

Many groups have contributed to the problem of mines in troubled Afghanistan, which is experiencing an ugly civil war ignited after the Red Army of the former Soviet Unions left the country ten years ago. The Red Army laid out the vast majority of these mines, leading to the high number of civilian causalities, according to the UN official.

Abdul Ghani Asalati, Regional Operations Director at the United Nations Mines Action Program — Photo by Zakaria Al-Shiekh

Other groups include the ousted pro-Russian regime of Najibullah, the opposition militia forces, and the different Mujahideen group that mostly laid out anti-tank mines.

"It was an inhuman behaviour by the Russians, who laid anti-personal mines in populated and residential areas including irrigation canals and agricultural land; not taking into consideration the humanitarian aspect of their action," Asalati stressed.

HM Queen Noor in full gear while inspecting mine fields in the Jordan valley, July 13, 1998 — File Photo

Clearance of mines is a tough task, which requires a lot of patience, time, money and experience. Experts engaged in the clearing of mines are at high risk due to the dangers involved in the process.

"More than 25 workers have died during my seven years of employment with the United Nations. The Russians didn't leave any maps to help us in detecting the mines. This makes the job very difficult and dangerous. We realize the existence of unknown mine fields only when an incident happens somewhere," he revealed.

Most of the demining operations in Afghanistan are financed by western countries through the United Nations, but the officials of demining agencies complain that "there is absolute absence of Arab countries in giving a helping hand through financing demining activities, despite the fact that Afghanistan is a 100% Muslim country and it deserves help from its fellow Muslims."

"I am astonished at the behaviour of Muslim countries. They have no role in financing the demining activities in Afghanistan, only western countries are helping us," stressed an UN official who didn't want to be identified.

Saying that the UN agency faces financial problems that hinder operations in Afghanistan, the official cried for help. "We call upon our brothers in the Muslim world to give a helping hand to their fellow Muslims, because clearance of mines has a high priority in the rehabilitation process of our country," the official told the Arab Daily.

"The dates and foodstuffs they send us are less important than the cash needed to save the lives of people," he added.

In addition, mines have a bad impact on agricultural activities. Refugees refuse to return home out of fear, the official complained.

by ZAKARIA AL-SHIEKH

First stage: After scanning the ground with metal detectors, the positions of possible mines are marked with white stones.

Second stage: When it is confirmed that suspect positions are seeded with landmines, the stones are sprayed in red.

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THE ARAB DAILY

JORDAN EDITION

US SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BEGINS A TOUR OF NINE MIDEAST COUNTRIES ON FRIDAY, DISCUSSES IRAQ AND PEACE WITH ALLIES

PAGE 6

CHILDREN'S HULLABALOO WITH YOUR NEWS

GO TO CENTERFOLD

PNA ARAFAT [illegible] US CLINTON [illegible] RECOGNIZE [illegible] STATE[illegible]

JORDAN GETS THUMBS UP FROM IMF

IT HAS JUST been announced that Jordan and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have reached an agreement, whereby the Kingdom is to receive assistance from the fund to help implement a further program of economic reform over the next three years.

In an interview with Reuters, the Minister of Finance Michel Marto said the new deal "will supply Jordan with an extra $150 million per year."

"This money will help the country enhance exports and investments, which will result in an increase in economic growth and lower unemployment rates," added Marto.

At the close of a recent IMF mission to Amman Stanley Fisher, IMF Managing Director reported that after having studied a number of elements making up the proposed program, the mission was able to take "an optimistic view of the future national economy" of this country.

These elements included the government's plan to continue and enlarge the program of privatization, planned trade reforms and a reduction of tariffs.

"The success of this assistance by the fund will depend on Jordan being able and capable of entering into a wider, world economy," Fisher said.

Concentration should be made on "maintenance of foreign exchange reserves, use of external assistance towards its economic and development structure, and continuing improvements in the efficiency of future budgets," he underlined.

Jordan experienced slow growth during 1996-1997 after a period of good economic results between 1990 and 1996, which witnessed some liberalization of trade and capital markets.

by GEORGE STALKER
Economy Editor

READ INSIDE

JAGHAMIN PLOTTED TO KILL PROSECUTOR, KIDNAP JUDGE

THE PISTOL USED during the escape attempt of inmate Mohammad Jaghamin on February 17 to kill two policemen, was also used to kill his partner in crime, Abdullah Kisswani.

Furthermore, the weapon had been awaiting Jaghamin to pick it up from one of the bathrooms of the state Security Court where he was being tried, for over two weeks, according to a lawyer involved in the case.

Sana' Jaghamin, sister of the accused criminal, confessed to hiding the pistol on January 28th, Mohammed Dweik, lawyer of one of the suspects, told the Arab Daily yesterday.

Dweik said "the thirty-one-year old woman, married to an military doctor at Al Hussein Medical City, confessed to hiding the pistol on that day after she managed to pass without inspection."

Dweik added that since that day, Sana' periodically checked on the pistol whenever she was in court to attend her brother's hearings.

However, on the day of the escape attempt, Sana' did not show up at court, added the lawyer.

Sana' and her brother plotted for the latter to take the pistol from the bathroom and kill the prosecutor, Mahmoud Obeidat and take the court's president, Judge Youssef Fa'oury as hostage.

The plan failed, however, when the court hearing was cut short after 15 minutes, after prosecutor Obeidat asked to adjourn the hearing because his deliberation was not ready.

According to the lawyer, Sana' told the police that her husband did not know about her role in the escape attempt.

"Once he knew that his wife was involved in the hijacking, he divorced her immediately at the doorsteps of the Criminal Court," said the lawyer.

The woman's confessions were in contrast with her brother's. Mohammed, who said that he got the 7mm pistol from a friend disguised as a police officer.

"He wanted to protect his sister, but she admitted that she was involved in the escape attempt," Dweik said.

Mohammed Jaghamin and his partner, Abdullah Kisswani, tried to escape Feb. 17, while they were on the way back to Swaqa prison south of Amman.

Jaghamin is charged with killing 12 persons at Rabiah and Shmeisani neighbourhoods, killing 2 police officers and attempting to kill the prosecutor and kidnap the court's president.

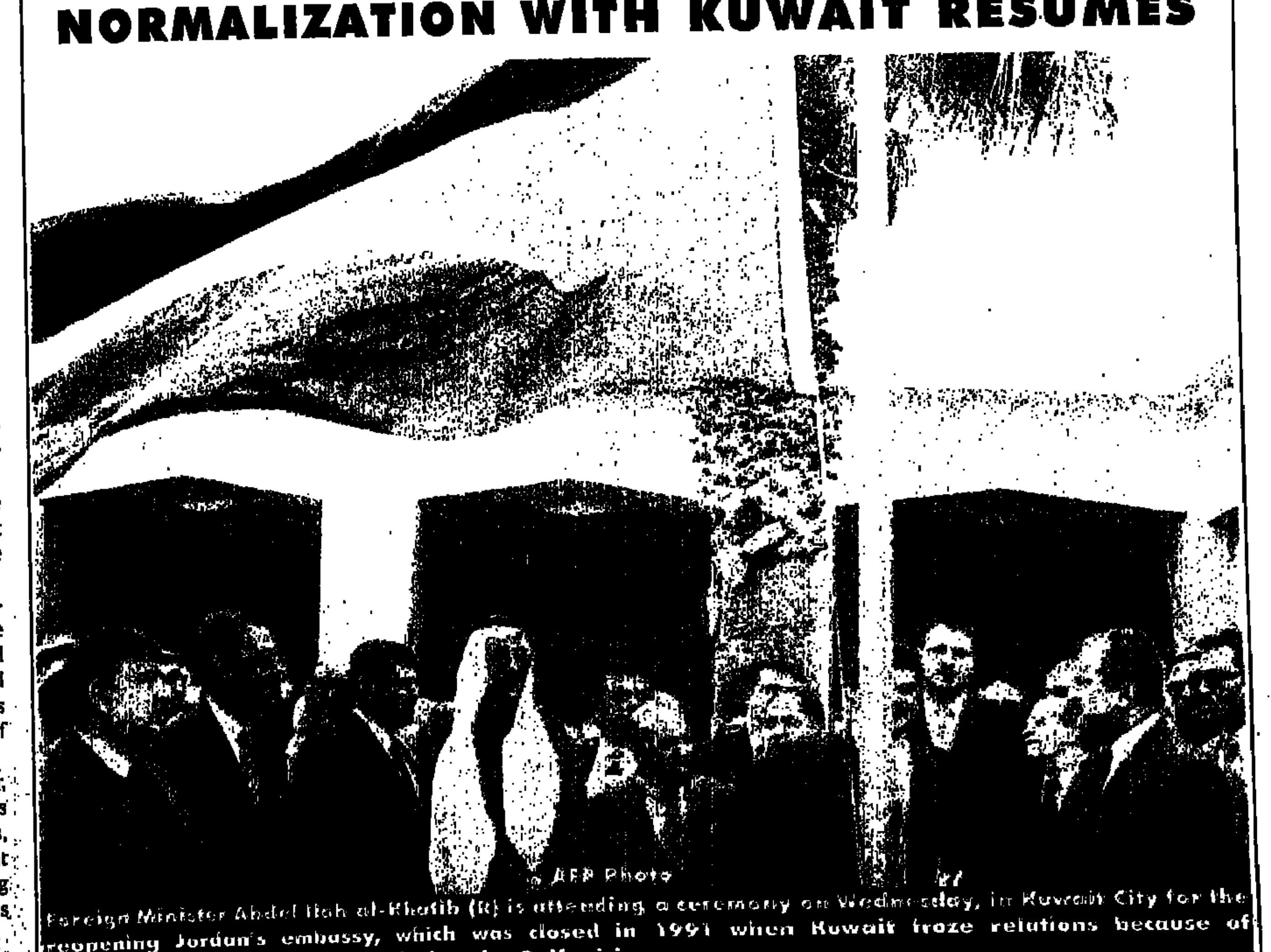
The lawyer added that Jaghamin shot Abdulla Kiswani, his accomplice, in order not to reveal to police how he got the pistol.

Meanwhile, confirming this information, an official at the Ministry of Interior said that "Sana' Jaghamin stands to face a fifteen year imprisonment with hard labor."

The official, who didn't want to be named, declined to give further details saying "the court's final decision will be on Mar. 15. What really matters is that Mohammed Jaghamin will face multiple death sentences."

by NOURA WAZANI
Crime Reporter

NORMALIZATION WITH KUWAIT RESUMES



AFP Photo

Foreign Minister Abdel Ilah al-Khatib (R) is attending a ceremony on Wednesday, in Kuwait City for the reopening Jordan's embassy, which was closed in 1991 when Kuwait froze relations because of Amman's support for Baghdad during the Gulf crisis.

PIONEERS OF JORDAN - CHECK OUT ARTS AND CULTURE SECTION, PAGES 20 - 21

KING ABDULLAH MEETS US UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE

king Abdullah during meeting with Eizenstat

Amman, Agencies — King Abdullah met Wednesday with U.S. Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs, Stewart Eizenstat for talks focusing on bilateral economic relations.

Eizenstat assured King Abdullah of U.S. support for Jordan through "additional aid", praising the big role that Jordan has played and continues to play towards peace in the region.

He also urged Jordan to press ahead with its privatization program and to update its intellectual property rights legislation in order to attract much-needed foreign investment.

Eizenstat had earlier held talks with Prime Minister Fayez Tarawneh. In remarks during the meeting, Tarawneh voiced the government's appreciation of US efforts to press international economic institutions to increase its assistance to Jordan. Eizenstat for his part, commended Jordan's steps towards economic reform and restructuring aimed at sustainable development. He voiced hope for Jordan to obtain the needed resources for economic growth through the support of the United States and the initiatives of the World Bank and the International Monetary fund.

KING ABDULLAH, PRINCESS RANIA RECEIVE ARGENTINE'S PRESIDENT DAUGHTER ZULEMA

His Majesty King Abdullah and Her Royal Highness Princess Rania received at Al-Baraka Palace Wednesday, daughter of Argentinean President Ms. Zulema Menem Who conveyed her father's condolences over the passing away of His Majesty the Late King Hussein.

Their Majesties expressed their deepest appreciation for the Argentinean President and his daughter's kind sentiment and conveyed their greetings and wishes to the Argentinean people.

Ms. Menem also paid a visit to the tomb of His Majesty King Hussein where placed a wreath of flowers, and recited verses of the Holy Koran .

AP Photo

Zulema Menem, holds prayers over the grave of late king Hussein.

.. AND RECEIVED QUEEN NOOR

Her Majesty Queen Nour also received at Bab Al-Salam daughter of Argentinean President Ms. Zulema Maria, who delivered His Majesty a message from the President.

Ms. Nenem said that she is here to offer her condolences and to express her father's deepest sorrow over the great loss of His Majesty The Late King Hussein.

Queen Noor expressed her pride in the great achievements of Arab expatriates in Latin America, adding that Jordan will strengthen its bilateral relations with Argentine under the leadership of His Majesty King Abdullah Bin Al-Hussein — Petra.

JORDANIANS, KUWAITIS HAIL REOPENING OF EMBASSY

The Arab Daily — Foreign Minister Abdul-Ilah Al-Khatib hoisted Jordan's flag on the temporary premises of the Jordanian Embassy in Kuwait City, heralding the start of a new era of relations between Jordan and Kuwait.

The Minister hoisted the flag, half-staff at "Safeer Hotel" which will serve as the temporary venue for the Embassy until the Embassy building is renovated.

"Now we can say that Jordanian Kuwaiti relations have returned to normal" said Khatib before the ceremony.

The Minister hoisted the flag amid the clapping and hailing of a crowd of Jordanian and Kuwaiti citizens present at the ceremony.

Despite hoisting the flag at half-staff, in mourning of His Majesty the late King, both Jordanians and Kuwaitis welcomed the move with Joy, saying it was the wish of the late King to have good relations with all countries of the world, and that he would have no doubt blessed the move together with the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

The crowd gathered around the flag and recited verses of the Holy Koran for the soul of the late King.

Citizens from both sides said the resumption of relations embodies the keenness of both the Jordanian and Kuwaiti leaderships to further strengthen relations between their two peoples, not only for the service of the two nations, but for the peoples of the region at large.

They also voiced hope that the move would reflect positively on all areas of cooperation between the two sides, and would further strengthen the brotherly ties in a complete and comprehensive manner.

FM CONFERS WITH KUWAITI JOURNALISTS

The Arab daily — Forign Minister Abdul-Ilah Al Khateeb met in Kuwait City Wedesday with Kuwaiti newspapers' editors-in-chief, senior editors and columnists.

The Minister discussed with the journalists the role of the media in the promoting the good relations between countries of the world.

Khateeb stressed that the media is a major player in orienting public opinion in both countries in the service of bilateral issues and the improved relations between Jordan and Kuwait. On their part, Kuwaiti key journalists voiced their appreciation of Jordanian media's efforts in this direction saying that serving and maintaining the common interests of Jordan and Kuwait is eventually to the benefit of all the Arab World.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Abdel Ilah al-Khatib meets with Kuwaiti jour...

LOWER HOUSE SKEPTIC OVER TWO-DAY HOLIDAY

By An Arab Daily Reporter — The issue of the two day holiday dominated Wednesday's Lower House session, which was attended by Prime Minister Fayez Tarawneh and Cabinet Members, with many deputies voicing skepticism over its implementation in the very near future.

At the outset of the session, Tarawneh briefed the House on the reasons behind the government's intention to apply the two day holiday at ministries, departments and institutions subject to the Civil Service Law.

Tarawneh said the government has always believed in the need for a national dialogue before taking major decisions that affect large sectors of the society.

He said various developed and third world countries adopt the two day holiday including 24 Islamic states.

However said Tarawneh, Jordanians seemed to differ on which two days to break. The government has proposed Thursday and Friday since a large portion almost half the Jordanian society, do not work on Thursdays.

On the advantages of the two day holiday, Tarawneh said it is estimated to save the government between JOD 15-17 million annually in cuts in fuel, transport, and communication. Furthermore, the move would give a boost to internal tourism and increase productivity "after having a good two day rest," said Tarawneh. Therefore, he said, the government has proposed an opinion poll that covers all national institutions in the Kingdom, and invited all sectors to voice their opinion through the media channels.

The Prime Minister said his call was not received with the expected enthusiasm, forcing the government to collect studies from other countries that apply the two day holiday.

The deputies for their part differed on the issue, some were in favor, and many against.

While some of the deputies agreed that many changes should take place before the implementation of the new holiday, others appealed to the government not to take hasty decisions, and to postpone the issue.

Deputy Amjad Majali voiced hope that the government would consider the House's recommendations on the issue, before making a final decision. Deputy Mahmoud Kharabsheh said, "according to research and statistics, such a move would have negative effects on productivity".

Deputy Bassam Haddadin said he was in favor of the two day holiday, "confident that it would have positive results on all aspects of society."

YEMENI PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES HOURANI

Yemeni Prime Minister Abdel Kareem Aryani received Wednesday Minister of Industry and Commerce Muhammad Saleh Howrani who conveyed a message from Prime Minister Fayez Tarawneh, concerning bilateral relations between the two countries.

During the meeting, both sides discussed issues related to further enhancing means of cooperation between Yemen and Jordan as well as activating cooperation agreements and protocols signed between both countries.

Aryani praised the level of brotherly relations between Yemen and Jordan which is a center of attention by leaderships at both countries.

He also emphasized the importance of using all investment opportunities between the Private Sector of both sides, as well as benefiting from experts in various fields.

Hourani is accompanied by an economic delegation to attend the first forum for Jordanian-Yemeni businessmen and investors, which aims at enhancing and exploring means of cooperation between different economic, commercial and service sectors — Petra.

ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION APPEALS TO KING

The Arab Daily — The Jordanian Engineers Association sent last week a cable to HM King Abdullah calling on him to order the release of five association members detained and imprisoned on political grounds.

"...We hereby submit to Your Majesty a case of a worrying nature which needs Your Majesty's wisdom to put an end to," the cable, a copy of which was received by The Arab Daily yesterday, read.

An array of political activists, the list includes the names of Ata Abu Rishteh, the spokesman of the banned Hizbutahrir (Liberation Party), and Naif Abu Judeh, another member of the radical Islamist party.

Though another Islamist, Ikrema Gharaibeh is a different story. Three years ago he was caught red-handed trying to plant explosives to blast a bus of Israeli tourists.

Described by a source at the Engineers Association as "independent," Talal Abu Riyaleh was arrested while entering Jordan from Iraq. Abu Riyaleh is known for being a very close friend of Laith Shbeilat, a key opposition figure. The fifth engineer is Ahmad Mohammad Boul, who was also apprehended upon entry to Jordan. This time from the West Bank.

In the Name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful with hearts full of pain and grief ..

The General Manager, Department Managers and all Employees of

Trans Jordan for Communication Services Co.

" alo "

would like to express their deepest condolences to

Fadi E. Khoury *Marketing and Business Development Manager*

for the loss of his

Father -in- law, Stephanie's

Dad who passed away due to a tragic accident in the USA.

May God Rest his Soul in Peace.

RAMZI E. KHOURY

Editor-In-Chief

About Time!

The Jordanian flag was finally raised over our embassy in Kuwait, and about time. Severed diplomatic relations with an Arab state, at a time when we have full diplomatic relations with Israel, is ridiculous. But the whole thing isn't our fault. Jordan is not in the business of severing ties with any country. Even before the peace treaty with Israel, we had never started diplomatic ties with the Jewish state to severe them! One day, it will be recognized that all the Jordanian leadership wanted at the time was to ensure that no Arab blood is spilt in vain and save the Iraqi civilians the hardships they suffer today. Do the Kuwaitis realize this or do they just forgive us for our sins?

Does he read the papers?

It was fascinating to learn that Prime Minister Fayez Tarawneh is still waiting for a nationwide poll to determine which two-days should be declared the weekend. He made his remarks at Parliament yesterday. It wasn't clear by the time this paper went to press whether the Prime Minister is at all aware of the poll carried out by The Arab Daily revealing that 73.4% of the population doesn't even want a two-day weekend, or if the PM doesn't think the poll counts because it gave the participants the choice of keeping things as they are.

In addition to the idea of holding a poll, Tarawneh declared that it is his policy to launch a national dialogue before such major decisions are made. What boggles the mind is that a national dialogue isn't being launched over solutions to the water crisis, economical woes, the refugee problem and how to ensure hotel rooms are booked at the millennium and for the rest of next year. If a decision is delayed on the two-day weekend, we call on the premiere to launch a national dialogue on how to solve the Y2K problem. If we collectively innovate a solution, we would have one heck of a commodity to export for the next nine months!

THE ARAB DAILY

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Elia Khoury & Family

extend their deepest heartfelt sympathies to

Sally Irene Taylor

on the tragic loss of her husband

ALEXANDER LEE TAYLOR

who was a warm understanding husband and a loving father to Stephanie & Fadi Khoury, Barb & Alexander John, Melinda & Bill Rhods, Clair & Douglas and Gregory Taylor.

Our hearts go out to all of the children at this time of sorrow.

May his star shine in heaven forever

God Bless

THE ARAB DAILY *Family*

Condoles our friends

Fadi & Stephanie Khoury

on the loss of Stephanie's loving father

Alexander Lee Taylor

who passed away in a tragic car accident yesterday morning

May He Rest in Peace

ARAFAT WILL ASK CLINTON TO RECOGNIZE RIGHT TO STATEHOOD

RAMALLAH (AFP) — Palestinian President Yasser Arafat will ask US President Bill Clinton when they meet next month to formally recognize for the first time the Palestinians' right to statehood, a senior aide said yesterday.

Such US recognition could be part of a wider international deal under which the Palestinians would agree to postpone a unilateral declaration of independence beyond May 4, when their peace accords with Israel expire, said Tayeb Abdul Rahim, one of Arafat's closest advisors.

"Arafat will ask Clinton at their summit on March 23 for American recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination, which will clearly mean the establishment of a Palestinian state," Abdul Rahim told AFP.

Palestinian officials said the Arafat-Clinton meeting at the White House would focus on Palestinian conditions for delaying the independence declaration, which Israel has warned would lead to a major crisis and potential violence.

Clinton has in the past recognized the Palestinians' right to self-determination, but says the exact status of the Palestinian areas must be determined through negotiations with Israel.

Europe, the United States, Jordan and Egypt have all urged Arafat to delay the statehood declaration, arguing in part that the move would likely boost the position of Israeli hardliners in national elections to be held on May 17.

Abdul Rahim stressed that no final decision had been taken by Palestinian leaders on the issue.

And he said that even if the declaration is put off, the world community must recognize that the status of the Palestinian territories will have changed with the expiration of the five-year interim autonomy period set down in the Oslo peace accords with Israel.

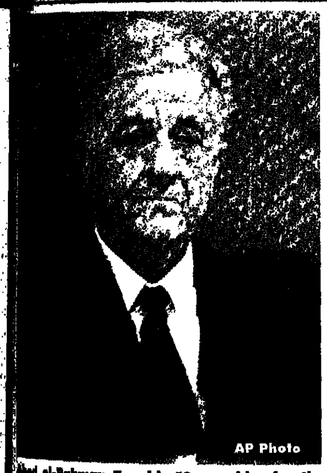
"We want to continue consulting with our friends before we will declare our position" on the timing of a statehood declaration, he said.

"But whatever the decision is, the political status of the Palestinian territories after the 4th of May will never be the same," he said.

Palestinians assert that the change of status is legally necessary since once the Oslo interim accords expire, all institutions of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) autonomy government created under those agreements will technically lose their legitimacy.

Another senior Palestinian official said European governments had already agreed to boost their ties to the PNA after May 4 in exchange for a postponement of the independence declaration.

"The Europeans are going to raise the level of Palestinian representative offices as part of a clearer recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination," said Nabil Shaath, the Palestinian minister for international cooperation.



AP Photo

Abed el-Rahman Zoubi, 68, presides for the first time at the Israeli Supreme Court in Jerusalem Wednesday. Zoubi is the first Arab judge to join the Supreme Court.

PALESTINIAN NATIONAL AUTHORITY PROMISES TRIALS FOR HAMAS PRISONERS

NABLUS (AP) — Islamic activists who launched a 36-day hunger strike to protest detention without trial said Wednesday that Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's government promised to give them their day in court or freedom. Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, spiritual leader of the largest activist group Hamas, denied reports that the group agreed to halt attacks during Israel's election campaign as part of the deal ending the divisive strike.

Details emerged Wednesday of the agreement between the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) and Hamas to settle the hunger strike by 400 prisoners which ended earlier this week.

Gen. Mohammad Jabareen, warden of the Jneid prison where 70 of the activists belonging to Hamas and the Iran-backed Islamic Jihad are being held, said those who are released will sign an agreement not to commit acts of violence.

AP Photo

Hamas inmates at the Jneid prison in Nablus cook their meal Wednesday.

Jamal Mansour, 39, a leading figure in Hamas who acted as spokesman for the prisoners, said he expected the understanding to be implemented soon although there was no specific timetable. Mansour, who appeared gaunt and weak after the strike in which prisoners drank only milk and water, said the agreement would mean less use of detention without trial and would prevent Israel from pressuring the PNA into making arrests sweeps.

"I think that the resolution will create a situation in which the Palestinian Authority won't be able to arrest people for their political affiliation," he said.

Mansour, who was rounded up following the September 1997 suicide bombing in Jerusalem's Mahane Yehuda open-air market which resulted in 18 deaths, said there was no concrete evidence against him. The PNA has been criticized by human rights groups such as Amnesty International for its treatment of prisoners.

Yassin, the founder of Hamas, said the agreement on ending the strike was limited to guaranteeing the prisoners a trial or freedom. "I have no information regarding any agreement that encompasses more than that," he said. David Bar-Illan, a spokesman for Netanyahu, said that reports of a deal between Arafat and Hamas were "an indication that the Palestinian Authority has no intention to crack down on the terrorists of Hamas." He said that if it was true that a halt in attacks before May 17 elections had been agreed to, it was made with the "obvious intention of bringing down the Netanyahu government."

UN CRITICIZES ISRAELI VIOLATIONS, PALESTINIAN ABUSES OF HUMAN RIGHTS TREND IN PNA TERRITORIES

GENEVA (AFP) — The human rights situation in the Palestinian territories remains "worrying," said a new UN report, which criticized Israel for rights violations while noting an increase in abuses by the Palestinians.

"While there were some positive developments, the threat of further human rights violations had increased in a tangible way" due to difficulties with the Middle East peace process and heightened political tension, special rapporteur Hannu Halinen wrote. The report, made available to journalists this week, is to be handed to the UN Human Rights Commission, which starts work in Geneva March 22.

The lingering concern was the number of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons and detention centers. Halinen was told that more than 2,200 Palestinians continue to be detained in Israel, including seven women and 40 under 16 years of age.

"Their conditions were described as not meeting international standards, especially regarding medical care and sanitation."

Interrogation methods used by the Israeli General Security Service (GSS) on Palestinian prisoners suspected of alleged security offenses have remained the same, the report said. But the author described some Israeli improvements, such as a decrease in administrative detentions and a halt in the "most flagrant" torture methods.

Meanwhile, "it appears that such violations are increasing on the Palestinian side," he wrote.

"The pressure applied by the occupying power on the Palestinian Authority, while explaining many violations, does not justify them, nor does it absolve the (PNA) of its responsibility."

Palestinians detained by the Palestinian National Authority, PNA "are often, in the course of interrogation, subjected to torture," the report said, highlighting the fact that those guilty of the act may well have been victims themselves of torture by Israelis.

Administrative detentions by Palestinians had reportedly sharply increased during the last months of 1998, with many cases related to individuals exercising their right to freedom of expression, the report said. The Israeli government refused to cooperate with Halinen, arguing that the special rapporteur's mandate concentrating on rights violations in Israel was biased. Israel is the only country to have a permanent UN human rights special rapporteur, first appointed in 1967.

Since then, the Jewish state has been regularly condemned for human rights abuses at the yearly gathering since. The expansion of Israeli settlements and building of new ones, as well as roads linking them to Israel "is currently the source of greatest concern in the occupied territories," Halinen wrote.

According to the most recent estimates, there were 190 settlements built in violation of international law.

Palestinian houses were being demolished at a faster pace, with Israeli authorities often claiming that they have been built without a license, the report said. Some 31 Palestinian structures were demolished in Jerusalem in 1998, affecting more than 300 people, he wrote.

Closures of the Palestinian territories as a form of collective punishment has been implemented "to a lesser degree" than in the past, although they were still subject to six weeks of closure between mid-September and October 1998.

The limitations imposed on the freedom of movement of the population of the Palestinian territories "have continued to affect to a large extent their social and economic well-being," the report said.

There were fewer deaths at checkpoints owing to Israeli soldiers refusing to allow Palestinian ambulances to pass, the report said.

ARAB WATCH

US, Kuwait set to hold military training exercises

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — US troops will start arriving on Thursday to hold a month-long training exercise with Kuwaiti forces, the US embassy said Wednesday.

"Sailors and marines of the US Fifth Fleet will conduct a joint, combined, amphibious, ground, air and naval training exercise known as 'Eager Mace 99,' from March 4 to April 4 with Kuwaiti armed forces," it said in a statement.

The US embassy said the exercise was designed to demonstrate "US capability and commitment to the region."

The United States has around 4,000 US military personnel stationed at Camp Doha base, west of Kuwait City, where the US military stockpiles prepositioned equipment.

US troops take part in an ongoing series of exercises, code-named Intrinsic Action, that last about four months and include live-fire training and joint maneuvers with the Kuwaiti army.

Iraq: UN must stop US bombing

BAGHDAD (AFP) — An official Iraqi newspaper on Wednesday urged the UN Security Council to intervene and stop the US air raids that have rocked Iraq since December and halted half the sanctions-hit state's oil exports. "We call on the Security Council to intervene to stop the continuation of these aggressions and to condemn them," the Al Jumhuriya newspaper said. "This cowardly aggression by the United States clearly proves that the leadership of this tyrannical state wants more premeditated attacks on Iraq and wants to stop its oil exports," the newspaper said.

Germany, Palestinians sign financial aid agreement

AL RAM (DPA) — German and Palestinian representatives Wednesday signed a financial aid accord in the West Bank town of Al Ram in which Bonn will provide the Palestinians with 100 million marks ($56 million) in support.

Palestinian radio reported that the two sides held lengthy talks Tuesday evening to discuss how the aid was to be spent on various development projects.

On Tuesday, Palestinian Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said that Germany is now the most important donor country, having provided $380 million over the past five years. Within the framework of European Union support, Germany's contribution to the Palestinians even amounted to $560 million.

PNA wants US help in row with Israel over sewage plant

RAMALLAH (AFP) — The Palestinians have asked the United States to intervene in a dispute with Israel over the establishment of a sewage treatment plant in the West Bank, officials said Wednesday.

Israeli authorities have threatened to block construction of the German-financed plant in the village of Salfit unless the Palestinians agree to make it part of a joint facility which could also serve the adjacent Jewish settlement of Ariel.

Nabil Shaath, the Palestinian minister of planning and international cooperation, rejected the Israeli demand, saying the plant is being paid for by donations to the Palestinian National Authority (PNA).

Shaath said the PNA has asked the US consulate in Jerusalem to intervene in the dispute.

A spokesman for the Israeli military administration in the occupied territories, Shlomo Dror, blamed the Palestinians for the hold up.

"We are just opposed to building separate water treatment plants for Salfit and Ariel," he said.

SADDAM CHAIRS MEETING OF AIR DEFENCE CHIEFS

RUSSIA, FRANCE TO RAISE IRAQ PIPELINE ISSUE

BAGHDAD, UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — President Saddam Hussein on Wednesday chaired a meeting of his air defence chiefs, the second in as many days after heavy US strikes on northern Iraq, the official news agency INA reported.

It said Iraq's military industrialization minister, Abdul Tawab Mulla Huish, and Industry Minister Adnan Abdul Majid Jassem took part in the meeting along with Iraq's air defence and air force chiefs.

INA said Wednesday that US and British warplanes had carried out 3,703 sorties in the two zones between mid-December and the end of February, including 2,614 overflights launched from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace.

Russia and France are to protest US air strikes in Iraq that damaged oil pipeline facilities, prompting a halt in UN-supervised Iraqi exports, western diplomats said Wednesday.

The diplomats said that the two countries would request a briefing from the UN official in charge of implementing a humanitarian program on the impact of the strikes, during a closed-door UN Security Council session on Wednesday.

The spokesman for the oil-for-food program, John Mills, told AFP that Benon Sevan would "give the council an update on latest information" from the sites in northern Iraq located inside a US and British patrolled "no-fly" zone.

President Saddam Hussein the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces during a meeting of his defense chiefs Tuesday.

US warplanes on Sunday and Monday carried out a series of bombing raids in which two communication stations were hit along the pipeline that transports more than half of all Iraq's UN-authorized crude exports.

Exports have been halted since Sunday, costing Baghdad some $10 million a day, based on a price of eight dollars a barrel.

Iraq has been under UN sanctions since its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait but is authorized to sell limited quantities of crude to finance imports of humanitarian supplies for its 22 million population.

In a letter to UN chief Kofi Annan released on Wednesday, Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Said Al Sahhaf charged that "this act of aggression was deliberately intended to halt the export of Iraqi oil."

A US diplomat said that the US planes did not hit the pipeline itself or a pumping station, but a relay center which was a "dual use facility" with military and civilian purposes.

Repairs to Iraqi oil facilities hit by US air strikes could be completed "as early as today," the UN official in charge of an oil-for-food program said Wednesday.

The official, Benon Sevan, made the announcement to reporters after a closed-door briefing of the UN Security Council.

He also told the council that Iraqi oil exports, which are authorized under the UN oil-for-food program, had not been interrupted by the air strikes on Sunday and Monday.

The air strikes, which hit communications centers linked to the oil pipeline that transports crude to Turkey, prompted the pipeline's closure.

"As of this morning, there were 2.38 million barrels in storage at Ceyhan, on Turkey's Mediterranean coast, with a tanker scheduled to load 1.8 million barrels of crude from Thursday," Sevan told the council according to

US COHEN TO DISCUSS IRAQ, PEACE WITH MIDEAST ALLIES

WASHINGTON (R) — US Defence Secretary William Cohen will discuss risks to long-term Gulf security from Iraq and stress US interest in Middle East peace on a whirlwind visit to nine countries in the region beginning on Friday.

A senior US defence official, briefing reporters ahead of the eight-day visit, said Cohen would also solidify bilateral military ties with Gulf and Mideast leaders and touch on pending US arms transfers at several stops.

He will go to Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Kuwait in the Gulf and complete the trip with high-level meetings in Jordan, Egypt and Israel before returning home on March 12.

"We will obviously talk about Iraq. We have gotten very, very good support from all our friends in the Gulf. We will continue to discuss overall strategies on how to deal with [Iraq's President] Saddam Hussein," said the official, who asked not to be identified.

US and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and on an aircraft carrier in the Gulf have been pounding Iraqi targets in a southern no-fly zone of the country since December, increasing the intensity of those attacks in recent weeks in response to challenges from Iraqi air defenses.

Similar attacks by US and British jets based in Turkey have also increased in a northern no-fly zone of Iraq.

The official said there had been no objections from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to the increasing raids against Iraq's southern air defenses. "The Gulf countries are quite comfortable with what we are doing," he said.

"One broad topic in discussions will be long-term Gulf security from external threats. We have an increasing problem worldwide and in the region on weapons of mass destruction and on missiles, and we will talk to them about that," he said. Cohen and senior US military officials regularly visit the Gulf to talk with leaders in the six moderate states of the Gulf Cooperation Council about bilateral military ties and possible threats from Iraq and Iran to the oil-rich region.In Jordan, Egypt and Israel, Cohen will discuss bilateral military ties and the deadlocked Mideast peace process.

Under a peace deal agreed last year, Israel was to have completed a phased handover of 13 percent more of the West Bank by late January in return for a Palestinian crackdown on activists and other security measures. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu froze the accord in December, accusing Palestinians of failing to meet their commitments. "We will talk about the peace process and emphasize the importance of having it go forward," the official said.

Among leaders Cohen will meet is King Abdullah of Jordan, sworn in last month to replace his father, the late King Hussein, who led Jordan for nearly half a century.

Jordan shares a long border with Iraq and President Bill Clinton last month asked Congress to approve up to $200 million in extra aid to help strengthen Amman's military and to provide additional economic funding to help Jordan repay its debts.

"We will now do our very best to work with King Abdullah to ensure that the US backing is there to continue to have Jordanian support for the peace process and for the United States," the defence official told reporters.

In the oil-rich United Arab Emirates, Cohen and other US defence officials will discuss with UAE leaders that Gulf state's planned purchase of some 80 US F-16 fighter jets and sophisticated air-to-air missiles for more than $40 billion. In Kuwait, Cohen will discuss with leaders that country's interest in obtaining US-built tracked 155mm "Paladin" artillery guns built by FMC Corp.

Cohen and Israel's new Defence Minister Moshe Arens will also discuss joint funding of a third Arrow anti-missile battery.

GCC POSTPONES MEETING ON IRAN

SAUDI ARABIA TO RECEIVE FIRST IRANIAN PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

RIYADH, ABU DHABI, (AFP),(DPA) — An emergency meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) ministerial council in the United Arab Emirates on Iranian military exercises near three disputed islands has been postponed from Wednesday to Thursday, the Emirates News Agency reported.

Iran last Saturday began nine days of naval exercises in the Gulf near the islands of Abu Musa, Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb. Their sovereignty is disputed by the United Arab Emirates and Iran. The islands are under Iranian control. The dispute has prevented normalization of relations between Iran and its GCC neighbors although relations have improved since moderate Iranian President Mohammad Khatami came to power in 1997. Sources in Saudi Arabia said Riyadh has informed Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi, currently visiting the kingdom, that it is important to reach a just solution in the dispute. The GCC political and economic alliance comprises of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain.

Saudi Arabia is set to receive its first Iranian presidential visit later this month when Mohammad Khatami joins the annual Haj pilgrimage. Saudi Defense Minister Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz said Wednesday. The minister, quoted by the official SPA news agency, gave no precise date for the president's arrival, although the pilgrimage to Mecca starts at the end of March. Prince Sultan said he would visit Iran "after the pilgrimage."

Relations between Tehran and Riyadh have improved since the election in May 1997 of reformist Khatami and an Islamic summit held in Tehran in December of that year. Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi began a visit to Saudi Arabia on Tuesday for talks on the oil price collapse.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) press on Wednesday said the Gulf Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting this week in Abu Dhabi would send a "clear message" to Iran.

"The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] ministerial meeting, which will discuss Iran's transgressions and military maneuvers in the Emirates' territorial waters, will send a clear message" to Tehran, the Al Ittihad daily said. "This meeting is of particular importance in that it is a rapid reaction to the hostile Iranian moves towards the Emirates' right to exercise sovereignty over the Emirati islands occupied by Iran," the newspaper said.

"This meeting constitutes a turning point in the Gulf Arab attitude to the question of the islands," Al Ittihad said. Al Bayan newspaper said the meeting would send "a unified message, which could lead the Iranian leadership to revise its unilateral moves on the Abu Musa island, to show good intentions and accept international arbitration to resolve the conflict."

Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi (L) holds talks on the oil price collapse with Saudi King Fahd, Yesterday in Riyadh.

The Al Khaleej daily accused Iran of "procrastinating, despite the efforts deployed for a peaceful solution to the conflict, of refusing international arbitration and practicing a policy of fait accompli."

"It is normal that the UAE should ask the GCC foreign ministers to discuss the very serious developments," in the conflict, the islands of Abu Musa and the Lesser and Greater Tunbs are claimed by both Iran and the UAE, which has repeatedly called on Tehran to accept dialogue or international arbitration to resolve the dispute. The UAE formally protested to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan over Tehran's opening of a new town hall earlier this month on Abu Musa.

Iran has controlled the three islands since 1971 after Britain ended its protectorate in the region. Tehran rejects arbitration, claiming the islands are part of its territory.

Morocco's King Hassan II (C), flanked by Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed (L) and his brother Moulay Rachid (2nd L) and the royal security chief Haj El Medyouri (R) walks in the royal palace in Marrakech before delivering an address to members of his government yesterday during a ceremony commemorating the 38th anniversary of his accession to the throne.

EGYPT SAYS LOCKERBIE TOPS AGENDA OF QADHAFI TALKS

RIYADH (R) — The Lockerbie bombing affair will top the agenda at talks between Libyan President Moammar Qadhafi and Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo, Egypt's foreign minister said on Wednesday.

Egyptian presidential sources said on Tuesday Qadhafi was due to arrive in Egypt on Friday, but it was not immediately clear whether he would meet Mubarak on the same day.

"Lockerbie will be at the top of discussions between President Mubarak and Colonel Qadhafi," Foreign Minister Amr Mousa said.

He was talking to reporters at Riyadh airport where he stopped for a few hours on his way to Cairo from Dhaka.

"The comments of Colonel Qadhafi give us optimism of movement towards a solution," he said.

He was referring to comments Qadhafi made in a speech on Tuesday that "a final agreement is expected."

Qadhafi is expected to drive across the Egyptian border at 10 a.m. (800 GMT) on Friday and pray at the border town of Sidi Barrani before making his way to Cairo by road or air.

SYRIA'S FM: ISRAELI BLITZ TO LEBANON MIGHT LEAD TO NETANYAHU'S OUSTER

BEIRUT (DPA) — Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq Al Sharaa in an interview Wednesday said Israel feared that a possible military blitz against south Lebanon might lead to the defeat of incumbent Israeli Premier Benjamin Netanyahu in the forthcoming Israeli elections.

"An aggression against Lebanon might lead to the fall of Netanyahu" similar to the defeat of then Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres after the ill-fated Grapes of Wrath offensive, Sharaa said in the interview with the pro-Syrian leftist Al Safir.

On Iraq, the Syrian official blamed Baghdad for "missing a good chance" for the lifting of nine-year-old sanctions imposed by the United Nations after Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait in 1990.

"Iraqi officials committed a grave mistake by launching an information campaign against their neighbors and on Egypt, making it difficult for anyone to defend Baghdad's position," he said.

Al Sharaa was referring to the January Arab foreign ministers conference in Cairo. An Arab ministerial committee formed by the Cairo conference to help remove UN sanctions will hold its first meeting in Damascus on Sunday.

BLAIR CAUTIOUS ABOUT KOSOVO PEACE DEAL

LONDON (AGENCIES) — British Prime Minister Tony Blair expressed caution Wednesday about the prospect that a peace deal would be struck later this month between the warring sides in Kosovo. Blair told parliament "it would be a brave person who predicted an optimistic outcome" to the Kosovo peace talks but he said "good progress" was being made towards reaching a deal at a conference in just over 10 days' time. The United States on Wednesday said good progress had been made in talks to convince ethnic Albanians to accept a peace deal on Kosovo.

"There's good progress with the Kosovars," said White House spokesman David Leavy. "There's indications that they are going to officially embrace the political settlement and we are encouraged by that and we're going to move forward to lock that in."

Talks on Kosovo between representatives from Belgrade and ethnic Albanians who want independence are scheduled to resume in France on March 15. Marathon negotiations at Rambouillet, southwest of Paris, last month led to a draft plan for an interim political accord, based on greater autonomy for Kosovo, a province of the Yugoslav state of Serbia. However, the agreement has not been approved by either side. The deal also hit snags on military arrangements, especially western plans for a NATO force to be deployed in Kosovo to separate the warring sides.

US, EU MUTUALLY THREATEN FLIGHTS BAN

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The US House of Representatives voted Wednesday to ban Concorde flights to the United States if Europe limits flights by aging US planes to Europe.

The European parliament in Strasbourg voted last month legislation that would ban aging planes equipped with US-made "hush-kits" that lower their noise levels.

The European legislation must be approved by European transport ministers before going into effect on April 1, 1999. The ministers are expected to vote on the matter in Brussels on March 29.

The US Commerce Department estimates that more than 1,000 planes belonging to the companies Northwest Airlines, Federal Express Corp and United Parcel Service (UPS) will be affected by the European ban. The House of Representatives vote, which has yet to be approved by the Senate, would affect four flights daily by the supersonic jet Concorde, two operated by British Airways from London and two by Air France from Paris.

ALBRIGHT ENCOURAGES THAILAND TO PURSUE REFORMS

BANGKOK (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, visiting a country caught up in the Asian financial crisis, is encouraging Thailand to stay on the path of democratic and economic reform while fighting drugs and prostitution.

Before traveling here to meet Thailand's royal and government leaders, Albright delivered an anti-drug message Wednesday as she toured a northern hill tribe village where farmers switched from growing opium poppies to vegetables and flowers.

She also met with more than half a dozen young women rescued from a life of prostitution by a non-governmental agency that offers them education and job training to try to dissuade their poor families from selling them or forcing them into the sex trade.

"I think that we are learning that if there is going to be improvements in democracy, in economic transformation for the people, that women have to be very much a part of it," Albright said. "A society that can't use its women in that way has lost at least half its resources or half its population."

Albright was meeting Thursday with Foreign Minister Surin Pitsuwan and Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai, whom the Clinton administration has praised as an economic and political reformer for moving to implement financial structural changes required by the International Monetary Fund.

A $17.2 billion IMF bailout last year was designed to help Thailand reverse its economic troubles, which had spread across Asia. The region is just now recovering, and the IMF and the government forecast that Thailand's economy will grow by about 1.5 percent in 1999.

Albright paid a call Wednesday on the 71-year-old King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the head of state and a revered figure.

When the financial crisis struck 20 months ago, Thai officials were upset with the United States for not contributing to a rescue package. But the rift was repaired as the administration agreed to let Thailand drop its $392 million purchase of eight F-18 fighters. The U.S. Marine Corps took the planes instead.

The Secretary of State was to encourage Thai leaders to move ahead on restructuring the banking system and corporate debt by approving pending pieces of legislation related to bankruptcy and foreclosure, U.S. officials said.

She visited the Hong Mai village in northern Thailand and praised the Thai people for rejecting "the dead end of drugs" by growing vegetables and flowers instead of opium poppies.

The royal government-backed project is "improving the living standard of the tribes and introducing crop substitution," she said. "This is in marked contrast to the country of Burma where they are not doing the kinds of things you are doing here."

The United States has contributed $1.3 million over the past two years to Thailand's drug crop substitution program, which has helped the country reduce production by 85 percent over the past 15 years, U.S. officials said.

AMNESTY: US PRISONS ABUSE WOMEN

PARIS (AFP) — Amnesty International denounced the violation of fundamental rights and dignity of women held in US prisons, in a report released here Thursday.

Cases of rape, groping and fondling during body searches, and the use of handcuffs and leg shackles during childbirth, led Amnesty's director in France, Michel Forst, to speak of a "double sentence".

Female inmates receive a "legal sentence, and specific humiliation because they are women," he says.

"That was not part of my sentence, to (...) perform oral sex with the officers," the report quotes a New York prisoner, Tanya Ross, as saying November 1, 1998 on NBC television.

Several accounts compiled by Amnesty echo a 1997 US Justice Department investigation, which admitted "frequent, prolonged, close-up and prurient viewing during dressing, showering and use of toilet facilities," in an Arizona facility.

Male prison guards are also accused of fondling or groping womens' breasts and genital organs during routine searches.

According to the report, 41 percent of the personnel who come into contact with women inmates in the United States are male, which runs counter to regulations established by the United Nations.

In March 1998, the document says the Federal Bureau of Prisons "paid 500,000 dollars to three women to drop charges, against correctional personnel in California."

They were accused of "rape and other sexual abuse", and of "having let prisoners enter womens' cells in exchange for money or other favours".

"Under international law, rape of a prisoner by correctional staff is considered to be an act of torture," Amnesty says, citing UN reports and the International Tribunal for Yugoslavia.

Several cases exist throughout the United States of guards being prosecuted for sexual abuse inside prisons or jails.

But bringing charges can expose inmates to retaliation, and victims "may have good reason" to believe that investigators will often accept a correctional officer's denial.

In 1997, some 138,000 women were incarcerated in the United States, three times more than in 1985, while the proportion of black and Hispanic women greatly exceeded their representation in the general population.

"The rate of imprisonment of black women is more than eight times the rate of imprisonment of white women; the rate of imprisonment of Hispanic women is nearly four times the rate of imprisonment of white women," the report says.

Amnesty estimates there are more than 80,000 women in US prisons and jails who are mothers to some 200,000 children under the age of 18.

Many women also enter jail and prison pregnant, it added.

"In 1997-98, more than 2,200 pregnant women were imprisoned and more than 1,300 babies were born in prison," Amnesty says, citing a 1998 study.

"In at least 40 states, babies are taken from their imprisoned mothers almost immediately after birth or at the time the mother is discharged from hospital," it adds.

Among states which allow mothers to keep and care for their infants, in certain cases and for varying periods, are California, Illinois, New York, and Nebraska.

In a general defense of pregnant, imprisoned women, Amnesty denounced what it considers "cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment in contravention of international standards."

Such treatment includes restraining women in their beds during childbirth, which in some cases can endanger the woman and her child.

"Women in labor need to be mobile so that they can assume various positions as needed and so they can quickly be moved to an operating room," doctor Patricia Garcia of Northwestern University says in the report.

"Having the women in shackles compromises the ability to manipulate her legs into the proper position for necessary treatment," she added.

"Amnesty International also received reports that six women were restrained while in hospital waiting to give birth in New York City in 1998," the document says, in violation of the Department of Corrections policy.

"According to the reports, one of the women gave birth while handcuffed to her bed in the labor room, unattended, screaming for assistance," it adds.

Forst stressed that while the report is part of a campaign for fundamental rights in the United States, "the same could be done in other countries," as "it only illustrates a general context."

The Amnesty report was issued ahead of International Women's Day next Monday, which commemorates the campaign for women to gain equal rights with men.

UGANDA TO CAPTURE OR KILL THE MURDERERS OF TOURISTS

KAMPALA (AFP) — President Yoweri Museveni vowed Wednesday that Uganda forces will pursue and capture or kill Rwandan rebels who butchered eight foreign tourists.

"We shall follow them, we shall try to capture them and if we don't catch them, we shall kill them," Museveni told a news conference here.

Four Britons, two Americans and two New Zealanders were killed overnight on Monday after being kidnapped by Rwandan Hutu extremists from Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park.

Hutu rebels raped a young US woman before the brutal killing, a US survivor of the massacre said.

Mark Ross, one of six foreigners to survive the savage attack on a camp in the park which began at dawn on Monday, said late Tuesday that two young Americans were the first to die after one of them was raped.

Some of the tourists, who were on a trip to see rare mountain gorillas, were hacked to death. The camp where they were captured was less than 15 kilometres from the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

"I regret the incident and promise that we shall do everything possible to ensure that it never occurs again as far as foreign tourists are concerned," said Museveni.

"The Ugandan authorities were reponsible for their (tourists') lives where ever they went and it was an oversight of our people not to seek for their protection when they went near the (DR) Congo border," he added.

He said there would be a further military deployment in southwestern Uganda, where the killings took place.

"Maybe" there will be a joint operation with the Rwandan army, Museveni added.

Ugandan military sources had told AFP after the tourists were abducted on Monday that a joint military operation involving the Rwandan army, DRC rebels allied to Uganda, and the Ugandan army itself was being considered.

He added that Bwindi national park will henceforth be permanently guarded by the military. He urged other national park authorities to alert the army if they became aware of any areas at risk of rebel attacks.

Museveni also referred to US Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) agents, who have arrived in Uganda to help with investigations.

"The FBI has better equipment that we have and could perhaps make a contribution," he added

The Ugandan leader, who looked tired and stressed during the news conference, said he was "very sad" about the tourists' murder.

"The fact that they (Rwandan Hutu extremists) have abducted and killed tourists goes to show the criminal nature of the Interahamwe and prove that it is right to take a firm stand against the (DR) Congo," said Museveni. Uganda and Rwanda have sent troops to the DRC to help Tutsi-led rebels fighting to topple the government of President Laurent Kabila.

Museveni appealed to the international community to help Uganda deal with the aftermath of the tourists' killing.

HIJACK OF FRENCH PLANE WAS SECOND ATTEMPT FOR ITALIAN EX-POLICEMAN

PARIS (AFP) — A young Italian who hijacked an Air France plane to promote an obscure new religion had also tried to hijack an Italian train last year, using a toy pistol, French officials said Wednesday.

Prosecutor Jean-Paul Simonnot said 25-year-old Stefano Savorini, expected to be formally charged with hijacking later Wednesday, tried to hijack a high-speed Pendolino to Paris in April 1998.

Savorini, who was discharged from the Italian police force in 1996, was placed under medical care following his bid to divert the Rome-Bologna train to Paris after threatening the driver with a toy pistol.

Should French medical experts declare him mentally unbalanced he will not be called to account for the kidnapping, a charge that carries up to 20 years in jail. He would instead be given medical treatment.

In the short-lived hijack drama Tuesday, Savorini hijacked an Air France flight from Marseille to Paris's Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport after claiming to be armed with a bomb.

Savorini, who gave himself up peacefully three hours after diverting the plane that had been bound for Orly, south of Paris, said the action was aimed at bringing attention to his group "Viralunismo."

Italian authorities said they did not know of any such group. Savorani said his organisation promoted a new religion called "avenismo" which aimed to unite Europe on a political level, and called for a press conference to announce the movement on television.

He said: "I do not want money, I only want my movement to be recognised."

Police said he was holding a fake remote control bomb detonator when he surrendered.

A Nigerian riot soldier fires a tear gas shell in a Lagos, Nigeria market which the police had cordoned off after opponents of President-elect Olusegun Obasanjo torched a police station in the area killing up to eight. A second day of violence broke out in Lagos after Obasanjo was declared President in a vote that political opponents are calling a rigged farce.

THE COLD WAR NUCLEAR ATTITUDES

Published in the Washington Post and the Arab Daily on the same day.

NOT SO LONG ago, Americans lived in fear of nuclear weapons. Then the Cold War ended, and we became complacent. That is a dangerous mistake, as a group of national security experts hopes to make clear to us.

The Committee on Nuclear Policy, as the 40 scholars, scientists and organization directors call themselves, set out on this quest at a National Press Club session last week. They made recommendations that could bring new life to the nagging question of what to do with the thousands of nuclear weapons around the world, most of them held by Russia and the United States.

Heaven knows the old efforts are lifeless; there has been virtually no progress for six years. Public disinterest is one reason. Congress' imprisonment in Cold War thinking is another. President Clinton's utter failure at providing the forceful leadership this issue demands clinches it.

The result is a quiet, long-running tragedy, a semiconscious acceptance of the unacceptable. We plod on as if these were matters merely tedious rather than terrifying. As Michael Krepon, president of the Stimson Center and a committee member, said: "With nuclear danger, there is no equilibrium point. One moves forward with concerted efforts among leaders. One moves backward without them. We are backsliding."

The last meaningful step was the signing of the START II Treaty in 1993. It languishes in the Russian Duma. The Clinton administration awaits its ratification, and that pretty much sums up its policy. Meanwhile, Congress, absurdly, has forbidden any cuts that would bring our forces below the previous treaty's levels. Thus does our anachronistically tough-with-the-Russians Congress hoard our strength as leverage, against a country that struggles simply to function.

"There is little appreciation of the magnitude of the meltdown in Russia, of the tailspin their nuclear forces are going through," said the Brookings Institution's Bruce Blair, another committee member. "There is denial, even self-delusion, on the future of Russian nuclear control."

The Russian nuclear complex is arguably more dangerous to us than ever, with its hundreds of thousands of workers and their dependents, its wealth of fissile materials and weapons, all without the funding level and government support and oversight of the past. An accidental missile launch, fissile material slipping into the wrong hands: Such developments grow ever more plausible.

Yet, despite this spiraling downfall, and 10 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Russia and America keep a rigid grasp on Cold War nuclear arsenals and Cold War nuclear attitudes. Our forces, still mind-bogglingly strong, are on high alert. Within minutes of a launch order, our two countries could send around the planet the equivalent of 100,000 Hiroshima bombs.

Committee members have decided, Krepon said, that, "We don't want to wait for treaties any more." They seek parallel, verifiable steps by each nation. Their sound proposals (find them at www.stimson.org) prescribe detailed steps to cut nuclear arsenals, control materials used to make them, and step back from hair-trigger posture.

A radical notion, you think, acting without treaties? Not too radical for George Bush, whose unilateral pullbacks in 1991 showed a courage and imagination not seen in the White House today.

We fuss instead about the overdue, ratification of an outdated treaty, and the unripe, a missile defense we're not sure we can build. We ignore the present threat of these weapons and the damage that our say-one-thing-do-another behavior does to the quest to stop their spread worldwide.

Perhaps it takes a military man to see and speak as clearly as Gen. Lee Butler, former commander in chief of the U.S. Strategic Air Command, who said in 1996: "We cannot sit in silent acquiescence to the faded homilies of the nuclear priesthood. It is time to reassert the primacy of individual conscience, the voice of reason and the rightful interest of humanity.

"We can do better than condone a world in which nuclear weapons are enshrined as the ultimate arbiter of conflict. The price already paid is too dear. The risks run too great. The task is daunting, but we cannot shrink from it. The opportunity may not come again."

What to do? As Krepon said, "It is awfully hard for us to shape the tenor of public debate when the White House is silent on these issues, with episodic exceptions."

But the American people have shown of late that they can summon a wisdom and maturity lacking in their leaders. Why not hope that the committee's prudent thinking could fall on listening ears?

By GENEVA OVERHOLSER

WORLD WATCH

Vatican envoy to the Philippines dies in Italy

MANILA — The Vatican's ambassador to the Philippines, Gian Vincenzo Moreni, died Wednesday of cancer in his hometown Montichiari in Italy, the apostolic nunciature here announced. The 67-year-old dean of the diplomatic corps will be buried on Friday in Montichiari, the nunciature said in a statement. Moreni entered the diplomatic service in 1963 and was consecrated archbishop in 1982. He was appointed Vatican's envoy, or apostolic nuncio, to the Philippines in 1990 — Agence France Presse.

Cambodian premier urges UN to rethink Khmer Rouge trial

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen on Wednesday urged the United Nations to think twice about recommendations to put Khmer Rouge leaders on trial, saying he preferred a South African-style truth commission. In a letter to Secretary General Kofi Annan, Hun Sen warned that if improperly conducted, a trial would "panic" former Khmer Rouge leaders and guerillas back to their faded jungle rebellion. "We have never rejected the accountability of the Khmer Rouge leaders for the crimes of genocide in Cambodia," he wrote in a letter also passed to AFP. "We just want, however, to caution that any decision to bring the Khmer Rouge leaders to justice must also take into full account Cambodia's need for peace." UN sources and diplomats said Tuesday in New York that a UN panel had recommended the establishment of an international tribunal to try senior Khmer Rouge leaders for their role in the 1975-78 genocide — Agence France Presse.

DRC government troops launch offensive on key town

KINSHASA — The Congolese Armed Forces (FAC) and their allies have launched an offensive in the east around Kindu, a strategic rebel-held town in Democratic Republic of Congo, concurring sources said here Wednesday. Government forces were aiming in particular to take control of the airport, about 15 kilometers from the town, the sources said. The press in Kinshasa, meanwhile, reported that violent fighting had erupted around Kindu, located 1,200 kilometers from the capital, Kinshasa. Rebels backed by Rwandan troops captured the city on October 12 after a week-long battle. Kinshasa had chosen Kindu as a base for a counter-offensive by FAC troops and their allies from Angola, Zimbabwe, Chad and Namibia — Agence France Presse.

Couple offers 50,000 dollars to the right human egg donor

New York — A childless couple in the United States was offering 50,000 dollars Wednesday for a single human egg from a donor that meets their specifications. According to an advertisement placed in several college newspapers the successful donor will be at least 1.75 centimetres tall, athletic and have scored exceptionally high marks on her college entrance exams, the New York Times said. About 1 per cent of college students fit the specifications. The couple which made the offer wished to remain anonymous, the report said, but both husband and wife were tall, and rich. More than 200 candidates had responded to the offer, some from as far away as Finland and New Zealand, the report said — Deutche Press Agency.

ECOMOG parades rebels captured in Sierra Leone

FREETOWN — Nigerian-led west-african intervention troops (ECOMOG) have paraded almost 100 "rebels" taken prisoner during January's fighting for control of Sierra Leone's capital Freetown, an AFP correspondent reported Wednesday. Many of the captives displayed by ECOMOG force said they were members of the Sierra Leone army, while others were police officers. The prisoners looked tired but in reasonably good health. Rebels of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), backed by troops who had supported a junta in power between May 1997 and February 1998, launched an offensive on Freetown on January 6. They were largely pushed out of the coastal capital some three weeks later after heavy fighting with ECOMOG, which backs elected President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah — Agence France Presse.

FILE — Voters stand in line to cast their votes in South Africa's first all-race elections as South African President Nelson Mandela announced that the second all-race elections would be held on June 2, 1999. AP Photo

SOLDIERS FIRE WARNING SHOTS IN RIOT-TORN INDONESIA CITY

AMBON (AP) — The Indonesian military launched a major troop buildup Wednesday in a riot-torn provincial capital, but unrest broke out despite the presence of the reinforcements.

Soldiers fired warning shots in front of a church in coastal Ambon to disperse a Christian mob and blocked hundreds of Muslims who were marching toward the Christians.

In the coutry's capital, Jakarta, about 2,000 Islamic students gathered outside the military's headquarters and accused soldiers of supporting Christian rioters. They chanted "holy war" and "God is great." In a leadership shakeup, military chief Gen. Wiranto fired the regional police chief who has been handling the religious clashes that have claimed at least 38 lives in the past week.

More than 150 people have been ... since the violence erupted in Januar... Maluku province, once known as ... Spice Islands.

The latest unrest in Ambon, Maluku ... capital, broke out after uniden... assailants stabbed a Christian ... staying at a Protestant church. ... Christian men then tried to stop a ... believed to be owned by Muslims

IRA MUST DISARM BEFORE JOINING N IRELAND GOVERNMENT

LONDON (AFP) — British Prime Minister Tony Blair on Wednesday raised the pressure on the IRA to begin disarming, just a week before London's deadline for the establishment of Northern Ireland's new government,

In an interview with The Scotsman newspaper, Blair insisted that the Irish Republican Army's (IRA) political wing Sinn Fein could deliver a weapons handover to meet the concerns of the British-ruled province's Protestant majority.

"They can do it, if they wish to do it... people have got to know if they are sitting down with people who have given up violence for good," he said.

"They can't negotiate... with a stack of guns under the table. It's as simple as that."

Protestant First Minister David Trimble has said he is prepared to freeze the process rather than allow Sinn Fein into government unless the pro-united Ireland guerrillas make a credible start to giving up their guns and bombs.

Sinn Fein, for its part, rejects any pre-condition on its right to take up the two cabinet posts it is entitled to, pointing to the letter of last year's historic peace deal which gave rival militias until May 2000 to disarm.

London wants to devolve power to the new power-sharing administration on March 10, but despite frantic behind-the-scenes negotiations, the prospects of a breakthrough do not appear hopeful.

BIN LADEN SUPPORTER DETAINED IN FRANCE

PARIS (AFP) — A French national who allegedly received training in one of the military camps set up by Saudi extremist Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan has been detained in France, sources said Wednesday.

Counter-espionage police picked up David Courtailler Thursday in the western city of Caen.

French Judge Jean-Louis Bruguiere detained Courtailler on terrorism-linked charges after an investigation showed that he had spent several months in 1997 and 1998 in the training camps, according to sources.

The US government has accused bin Laden of masterminding the August bombing of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that left 224 dead and wounded thousands.

LONDON WANTS GIBRALTARIANS TO VOTE IN EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

LONDON (AFP) — The Br... government ... announced it wanted to ... the right for Gibraltar ... dents to vote in Europe... elections, in an initiative ... tain to raise the hackles ... Madrid.

"We will be taking all ... able steps to secure ... of the European Parliament ... Gibraltar," Junior ... Office minister Joyce Quin ... in a parliamentary ... reply published overnight.

Britain until now ... refused to allow an ... of voting rights, ... that Gibraltar, a tiny ... colony of some 30,000 ... on Spain's southern coast, ... not covered by the ... elections. Changing the ... for Gibraltar, however, ... require a unanimous ... the 15 members of ... European Union, ... ing Spain, which ... resist any ... "sovereignty" of the ...

Eizenstat

US MOVES ON ISRAELI RESTRICTIONS ON JORDAN-PALESTINE TRADE

As part of their discussions in Amman on Wednesday, the US Under Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Stuart Eizenstat and Prime Minister Fayez Al Tarawneh tackled the issue of Jordanian trade with Gaza and the West Bank.

Eizenstat reported that the US "has urged that this market be open to Jordanian products," adding that "we have encouraged Israel to implement the expansion of the A1/A2 list (attached to the Paris economic agreement signed between the Palestinian National Authority and Israel) which will permit over 1200 Jordanian items into the West Bank and Gaza."

Eizenstat expressed his interest in this matter saying that he has "personally urged senior Israeli officials to expand the point-to-point truck delivery from Jordan to the West Bank."

Regarding the role of the US in supporting Jordanian goods into that territory, Eizenstat stated that he has talked to Israeli officials who said that shortly there will be three drop-off points in the West Bank that will facilitate Jordanian truck traffic into the territories. He has also been told by Palestinian officials that there is a real willingness on the part of the Palestinians to accept more Jordanian goods.

During an earlier meeting between Jordanian and Israeli diplomats headed by Prime Minister Tarawneh and his Israeli counterpart Netanyahu, Jordan stressed the need for Israel to facilitate trade traffic between the Kingdom and the Palestinians. Israel maintains that it plays no negative role regarding this issue, it has agreed to place this matter on top of its bilateral relations' agenda with Jordan.

During the meeting, Eizenstat congratulated Jordan on reaching the new agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which will provide Jordan with direct financial support and "is a road map for further economic reform, including privatization and opening up the economy to foreign investment."

The IMF agreement also gives Jordan an economic framework that enables it to seek a rescheduling of its debt obligations from the Paris Club of Creditor Nations. Eizenstat affirmed US support of Jordan on that matter.

By Orayb Aqeel & Rola Shakib

TEXT OF THE AGRICULTURAL CALENDAR

The Agricultural Calendar for products to be traded between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Palestinian National Authority for the Agricultural Products Exchange.

In line with the report of the Jordanian-Palestinian Higher Committee of Amman September 19, 1998, and in pursuance of the negotiations held in Ramallah and Gaza between October 25-28, 1998, headed by Secretary General Hashem Shboul of the Ministry of Agriculture Ministry, on the Jordanian side, and Under Secretary Azzam Tabeelah, on the Palestinian side, the following points were agreed upon:

Clause 1. The Jordanian side requested that the following Jordanian agricultural products, identified in the joint Jordanian-Palestinian calendar, be added to the A1 list of commodities, which is an attachment to Paris Economic Agreement signed by the Palestinian National Authority and Israel.

Clause 2. The agricultural products listed in the joint agenda are exempt from custom fees and taxes.

Clause 3. The Palestinian side agrees to import quantities to their territories equal to the quantities exported to the Jordanian side, on condition that quantities should be evaluated every six months by both sides.

Clause 4. Other than the dates set in the joint agenda, exchange of agricultural products is subject to custom fees and other fees.

Clause 5. The two sides must abide by the weights and measures and technical conditions of each party.

Clause 6. The following products should be included in the Agenda. Each product must be accompanied with a certificate of origin abiding by all conditions stated in the procedures for importing citrus fruits signed by the two sides on June 8, 1998.

First: From Jordan to Palestinian Territories

Category A: all year long (vegetables/fruits)	7 products
Category B: all year long (agricultural accessories)	15 products
Category C: as required (vegetables)	19 products
Category D: restricted to particular periods (vegetables/fruits)	5 products

Second: From West Bank to Jordan

Category A: all year long (food stuff)	4 products
Category B: as required (vegetables)	6 products
Category C: by season (vegetables)	2 products
Category C1: Particular period (fruits)	6 products

Clause 7. Materials not in accordance with the regulations that could not be returned are to be destroyed at the expense of the owner.

Clause 8. The next regular meeting between the two sides will be in August 1999 in Ramallah

Signed in Amman March 3, 1999.

By:

Jordanian Minister of Agriculture Mijhim Al Khreisha

Palestinian Minister of Agriculture Hikmat Zeid

HEWLETT-PACKARD SPLITS INTO TWO

PALO ALTO (R) — Hewlett-Packard Co., the world's third-largest computer maker and a cornerstone of California's Silicon Valley, said Tuesday it will split into two companies to "sharpen the strategic focus" of its computer and measurement businesses.

The company said that one enterprise will focus on measurements, which accounted for $7.6 billion of Hewlett's $47.1 billion of total revenues in fiscal 1998.

The measurement business makes everything from semiconductor test equipment, telecommunications test equipment to calculators and defibrillators.

The other enterprise, which will retain the Hewlett-Packard name, includes the LaserJet and Inkjet printer business; the mainframe and heavy-duty computing business using Hewlett's version of the Unix operating system; and the personal systems group, Hewlett's PC unit.

Hewlett-Packard said it is considering an initial public offering of about 15 percent of the measurement company's outstanding shares by year-end that would be the largest-ever technology IPO for Silicon Valley.

After the IPO, remaining shares of the measurement company would be distributed to Hewlett shareholders in a tax-free transaction.

The plan, which was approved at a special board meeting Tuesday, follows a rocky period for the venerable Hewlett-Packard in which it has missed analysts' forecasts in at least six of the last nine quarters. Hewlett-Packard Chief Executive Lewis Platt, one of the most powerful and well-known figures in Silicon Valley, will step down after the separation.

"It's unfair to assume it's all doom and gloom around here,"Platt said on a conference call with analysts. "It's quite the opposite; people are very energized. This is an exciting new change in the Hewlett-Packard Co."

Analysts praised the move, noting that in today's rough and tumble personal computer market it was unwieldy to have a computer company as a subsidiary of a larger one. The Palo Alto, Calif., company is best known for moving into new markets and dominating them; its printer business is the world's largest and accounted for about 35 percent, or $16.5 billion, of Hewlett-Packard's $47.1 billion in revenues last year.

Several years ago, it introduced its Pavilion line of consumer PCs, which proved a hit with customers, and Hewlett-Packard was among the first to tap the mushrooming market for low-cost PCs.

"One CEO trying to run both operations is difficult," said analyst Stephen Dube of Wasserstein Perella Securities. "This move creates more focus for the entire company."

Hewlett-Packard stock was up $2.875 to $68.75 in late New York Stock Exchange trading after trading as high as $73.50 a share earlier. The stock was below its record high of $83.88, but well up from a year-low of $47.06.

Platt, 57, who drove the plan to create two companies, will continue as Hewlett-Packard chairman, president and chief executive officer, and manage the transformation until the separation is completed. Platt said that a committee composed of himself and three other board members has been formed to seek a new chief executive officer for Hewlett-Packard and had its first meeting yesterday.

Executive Vice President Edward "Ned" Barnholt will head the measurements company."We'll work very hard to be an $8 billion start-up and to create a powerful culture of speed, agility and risk-taking," Barnholt said on the call.

The search, while it will include both inside and outside candidates, may at the board's behest focus more on an external candidate, predicted Paul McGuckin, a vice president at research firm Gartner Group.

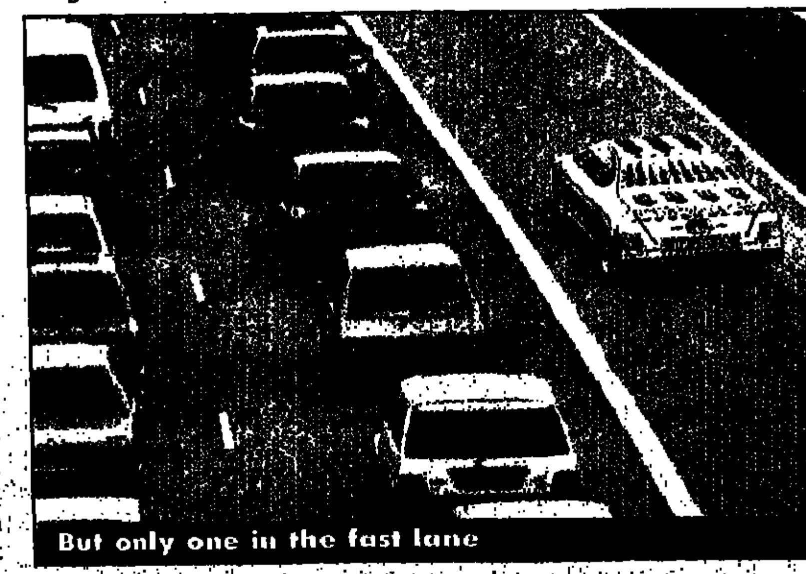
"We've not retained a search firm yet and it would be unfair to characterize the board as leaning toward an outside candidate," Platt said in an interview.

Hewlett-Packard, long known as an employer loyal to its employees, said it does not expect any "significant overall" job cuts due to the restructuring. "This announcement is not about major short-term cost reductions," Robert Wayman, Hewlett-Packard's chief financial officer, said in a statement.

"You can expect an H-P that will be less genteel when dealing with competitors," McGuckin said. "The gloves are coming off."

Investment banks Morgan Stanley Dean Witter and Goldman, Sachs & Co. are serving as advisors to Hewlett-Packard.

By: Duncan Martell



But only one in the fast lane

A.F.M TRADE

Company	CLOSING	CHANGE
BANKS		
ARAB Bk	221.000	-2.00
NT'L Bk	1.420	-0.05
Bk. OF JORDAN	1.320	0.00
INDUSTRIAL DEV. Bk	1.420	-0.05
THE HOUSING Bk	2.810	0.03
JO. KUWAIT Bk	1.630	0.00
JO. GULF Bk	0.660	0.01
JO. ISLAMIC Bk	1.690	-0.01
PHILADELPHIA Bk	0.620	-0.01
BANKS INDEX 287.100		-0.73%
INSURANCE		
JO. FRENCH INS	2.600	-0.05
INSURANCE INDEX 125.170		-0.25%
SERVICES		
ELECTRIC POWER	1.700	0.02
IRBID ELECTRICITY	1.880	0.09
PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	0.910	0.01
JO. INT'L TRADING CEN	0.240	0.00
AL-RA'I	7.030	0.03
ARAB INT'L FOR INVES.&	1.960	-0.01
UNIFIED LAND TRANS	1.140	0.00
SERVICES INDEX 114.260		+0.18%
INDUSTRY		
CEMENT	3.730	-0.02
PHOSPHATE	2.320	-0.01
ARAB POTASH	4.040	0.04
PETROLEUM REFINERY	10.800	0.00
ARAB PHARMACEUTICA	3.040	0.01
CERAMIC IND	1.250	-0.02
JO. DAIRY	2.950	0.00
TOBACCO & CIGARET	1.490	-0.03
ARAB CHEMICAL DETER	7.360	0.30
DAR AL DAWA	6.140	-0.01
MIDDEL EAST COMPLEX	0.550	-0.01
JO. STEEL	1.020	0.01
LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	0.410	0.00
PETRO - CHEMICAL	0.280	-0.01
UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL	0.800	-0.02
NT'L CABLE	0.460	-0.02
SULPHO - CHEMICALS	0.400	-0.01
UNIVERSAL MODERN IN	0.590	0.00
IND. RESOURCES	0.420	0.00
NEW CAPLES	0.870	0.00
NT'L ALUMINIUM	0.790	0.00
INDUSTRY INDEX 95.500		+0.10%
PARALLEL		
EXPORT Bk 75%	0.960	0.01
JO. TRADING FACILITIES	0.410	-0.01
UNION INVES. CORP	0.860	-0.01
AL - EKBAL	0.870	0.00
ADVANCED PHAR	0.520	0.00
MEDICAL APPLIANCES	0.440	0.00
AL DAWLIAH	0.680	-0.02
ARAB INVESTORES	1.030	-0.02
ARAB INT'L. TRADE	0.180	0.00
MACHINARY EQUIP	0.430	-0.02
OPTICAL & AUDIAL	0.380	-0.02
CENTURY	1.200	0.01
NAMICO	0.150	-0.01
UNION TOBACCO	3.700	-0.10
AL-RAZI	0.820	-0.02
UNITED ENG. IND	0.180	0.00
NT'L POULTRY	0.580	0.03
NUTRI DAR	0.790	-0.01
GRAND INDEX 182.28		-0.46%

TOURISTS' DINAR

CENTRAL BANK BULLETIN		
CURRENCY	ASK	BID
US DOLLAR	0.7080	0.7100
G.BRITAIN STERLING	1.1422	1.1479
GERMANY MARK	0.3950	0.3970
SWITZERLAND FRANC	0.4851	0.4875
FRANCE FRANC	0.1178	0.1184
JAPAN YEN*	0.5836	0.5866
HOLLAND GUILDER	0.3506	0.3524
ITALY LIRA*	0.0399	0.0401
EURO	0.7726	0.7766

DEPOSIT INTEREST RATES

DEPOSIT INTEREST PRICES				
CURRENCY	1 M	3 M	6 M	1 YEAR
US$	4.5900	4.6500	4.7600	5.0300
GBP	5.3800	5.1900	5.0900	5.0800
EURO	3.0400	2.8900	2.9400	2.9800
DM	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
CHF	1.1600	1.1600	1.2000	1.3400
JPY	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

STOCK EXCHANGE INDICES

WORLD STOCK MARKETS			
STOCK MARKET	INDEX	CLOSING	LAST CLOSING
FRANKFURT	DAX	4804.02	[illegible]
HONG KONG	HANG SENG	9913.60	[illegible]
LONDON	FT-SE 100	6061.30	[illegible]
NEW YORK	DJ INDUS.	9267.61	[illegible]
NEW YORK	NYSE COMPOSITE	582.84	[illegible]
NEW YORK	AMEX COMPOSITE	698.21	[illegible]
NEW YORK	S+P 500	1225.60	[illegible]
TOKYO	NIKKEI -225	14170.36	[illegible]
PARIS	CAC 40	4049.63	[illegible]

PRECIOUS METALS

PRECIOUS METALS		
METAL	ASK	BID
GOLD	286.90	286.[illegible]
SILVER	5.38	5.[illegible]
PLATINUM	373.00	371.[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGE CROSS RATES (DINAR)

CURRENCY	JORDAN DINAR	SAUDI RIYAL	U.A.E DIRHAM	BAHRAIN DINAR	OMAN RIYAL	QATAR RIYAL	KUWAIT DINAR	EGYPT POUND	US DOLLAR
JORDAN DINAR	1.0000	0.1888	0.1927	1.8777	1.8389	0.1944	2.3152	0.2077	[illegible]
SAUDI RIYAL	5.2977	1.0000	1.0209	9.9478	9.7421	1.0300	12.2655	1.1006	[illegible]
U.A.E DIRHAM	5.1893	0.9795	1.0000	9.7441	9.5426	1.0089	12.0144	1.0781	[illegible]
BAHRAIN DINAR	0.5326	0.1005	0.1026	1.0000	0.9793	0.1035	1.2330	0.1106	[illegible]
OMAN RIYAL	0.5438	0.1026	0.1048	1.0211	1.0000	0.1057	1.2590	0.1130	[illegible]
QATAR RIYAL	5.1434	0.9709	0.9912	9.6579	9.4582	1.0000	11.9081	1.0685	[illegible]
KUWAIT DINAR	0.4319	0.0815	0.0832	0.8110	0.7943	0.0840	1.0000	0.0897	[illegible]
EGYPT POUND	4.8136	0.9086	0.9276	9.0386	8.8517	0.9359	11.1445	1.0000	[illegible]
LEBANON LIRA	21.2288	4.0071	4.0909	39.8621	39.0379	4.1274	49.1498	4.4102	[illegible]
US DOLLAR	1.4124	0.2666	0.2722	2.6522	2.5973	0.2746	3.2701	0.2934	[illegible]
G.BRITAIN STERLING	0.8734	0.1649	0.1683	1.6400	1.6061	0.1698	2.0221	0.1814	[illegible]
GERMANY MARK	2.5314	0.4778	0.4878	4.7532	4.6549	0.4922	5.8607	0.5259	[illegible]
SWITZERLAND FRANC	2.0610	0.3890	0.3972	3.8700	3.7900	0.4007	4.7717	0.4282	[illegible]
FRANCE FRANC	8.4891	1.6024	1.6359	15.9403	15.6108	1.6505	19.6543	1.7636	[illegible]
JAPAN YEN *	1.7147	0.3237	0.3304	3.2197	3.1532	0.3334	3.9699	0.3562	[illegible]
HOLLAND GUILDER	2.8520	0.5383	0.5496	5.3553	5.2445	0.5545	6.6030	0.5925	[illegible]
SWEDEN KRONA	11.6610	2.2011	2.2471	21.8963	21.4436	2.2672	26.9980	2.4225	[illegible]
ITALY LIRA**	25.0592	4.7302	4.8290	47.0545	46.0817	4.8721	58.0180	5.2060	[illegible]
BELGIUM FRANC	52.2090	9.8550	10.0610	98.0347	96.0079	10.1508	120.8764	10.8462	[illegible]
AUSTRALIA DOLLAR	2.2581	0.4262	0.4351	4.2401	4.1524	0.4390	5.2280	0.4691	[illegible]
GREEC DRACHIMA	4.1650	0.7862	0.8026	7.8207	7.6590	0.8098	9.6429	0.8653	[illegible]
CYPRUS POUND	0.7514	0.1418	0.1448	1.4110	1.3818	0.1461	1.7397	0.1561	[illegible]
AUSTRIA SCHILLING	17.8076	3.3614	3.4316	33.4380	32.7467	3.4623	41.2289	3.6995	[illegible]
CANADA DOLLAR	2.1483	0.4055	0.4140	4.0339	3.9505	0.4177	4.9738	0.4463	[illegible]
EURO	1.2940	0.2443	0.2494	2.4298	2.3796	0.2516	2.9960	0.2688	[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGE CROSS RATES (DOLLAR)

CURRENCY	US DOLLAR	G.BRITAIN STERLING	GERMANY MARK	SWITZERLAND FRANC	FRANCE FRANC	JAPAN YEN*	HOLLAND GUILDER	ITALY LIRA	[illegible]
US DOLLAR	1.0000	1.6172	0.5580	0.6863	0.1664	0.8237	0.4952	5.6384	[illegible]
G.BRITAIN STERLING	0.6184	1.0000	0.3450	0.4238	0.1029	0.5094	0.3062	3.4863	[illegible]
GERMANY MARK	1.7922	2.8983	1.0000	1.2282	0.2982	1.4763	0.8876	10.1018	[illegible]
SWITZERLAND FRANC	1.4592	2.3598	0.8142	1.0000	0.2428	1.2020	0.7227	8.2246	[illegible]
FRANCE FRANC	6.0103	9.7199	3.3536	4.1189	1.0000	4.9508	2.9766	33.8763	[illegible]
JAPAN YEN*	121.4000	196.3281	67.7380	83.1963	20.1987	1.0000	60.1228	684.2559	[illegible]
HOLLAND GUILDER	2.0192	3.2655	1.1267	1.3838	0.3360	1.6633	1.0000	11.3810	[illegible]
SWEDEN KRONA	8.2560	13.3516	4.6066	5.6579	1.3736	6.8007	4.0887	46.5339	[illegible]
ITALY LIRA**	17.7419	28.6922	9.8995	12.1586	2.9519	14.6144	8.7866	1.0000	[illegible]
BELGIUM FRANC	36.9640	59.7782	20.6249	25.3317	6.1501	30.4481	18.3063	208.3430	[illegible]
AUSTRALIA DOLLAR	1.5987	2.5855	0.8920	1.0956	0.2660	1.3169	0.7918	9.0110	[illegible]
GREEC DRACHIMA	2.9488	4.7688	1.6454	2.0208	0.4906	2.4290	1.4604	16.6206	[illegible]
CYPRUS POUND	0.5320	0.8604	0.2968	0.3646	0.0885	0.4382	0.2635	2.9986	[illegible]
AUSTRIA SCHILLING	12.6078	20.3893	7.0348	8.6402	2.0977	10.3853	6.2440	71.0623	[illegible]
CANADA DOLLAR	1.5210	2.4598	0.8487	1.0424	0.2531	1.2529	0.7533	8.5729	[illegible]
EURO	0.9162	1.4816	0.5112	0.6279	0.1524	0.7547	0.4537	5.1639	[illegible]

ARAB CAPITAL MARKETS

Name		Last	Net.Ch
ARAB INS GROUP	↑	0.86	+0.01
ARAB INT.INS.	↑	0.075	+0.007
AHLI COML. BANK	*↓	0.396	+0.002
A.B.C. -$-	↓	5.90	-0.10
BAH INSURANCE	↓	0.276	-0.002
BANK BAH + KWT	*↑	0.226	+0.002
BAH COML FALT	↓	0.240	-0.002
BAH HOTEL		0.202	
B.DUTY FREE	↓	0.498	-0.002
BAH MILLS	↓	0.175	-0.002
BAH ISLAM. BANK	↓	0.252	-0.002
BAH ISLAMIC INS	↓	0.280	-0.020
BAH + KWT INS.		0.400	
BAH INT. BANK	*↓	0.156	-0.001
BAH.LEISURE CO.	↑	0.098	+0.001
BAH MID E. BANK	↓	0.167	-0.002
BAH MAR.+M.INT	↓	0.472	-0.004
BAH SAUDI BANK	↑	0.150	+0.001
BAH SHIP R ENG	↑	0.520	+0.020
BAH TOURISM	↓	0.136	-0.002
BAH TELECOM		0.650	
DELMON POULTRY	↓	0.166	-0.004
FAYSAL ISLAM -$-	↑	2.08	+0.08
TRAFFCO		0.302	
UNION GULF INS.	↑	0.109	+0.006
NATL. IMP+EXP		0.655	
ALAHLIA INS.		0.270	
INVSTCORP -$-		3.84	
BAH LIGHT INDSTR	↑	0.071	+0.001
BAH CINEMA	↓	0.710	
NATL. BANK BAH	↓	0.372	+0.006
NATIONAL HOTEL	↓	0.100	-0.002

Name	Last	%Net.C
ALX. PHARMACEUT.	↑120.50	+4.97
MISR HOTELS	↑111.81	+5.07
ALEX RE INVEST	↓114.78	+4.35
MEMPHIS PHARM.	↑98.50	+2.22
NATIONAL CEMENT	↑21.53	+9.51
MAHMOUDIA CONTR	↑26.36	+4.94
ELSHEROUK PRESS	↑25.56	+4.60
HOECHST ORIENT	↑13.00	+9.16
SUEZ CANAL BANK	↑57.73	+1.96
EGY MOBILE SVC	*↑35.76	+2.97

Name		Last	Net.Ch
ANWAR IND & TRAD			
BATINAH DAIRY			
ALIANCE HOUS BK	↓	0.840	-0.060
BATNAH HOTELS			
BRAIMI HOTEL			
KHWR DEV SVC			
RAWDHA QUARRIES			
SALLAN FOOD IND			
ALSAWADI RES	↑	1.15	+0.05
AREEJ VEG OILS			
BANDER RAWDAH QU			
BAHRAIN INTL BK			
BK MCT AHLI OM	↓	3.130	-0.140
BK OM BAH & KUW			
COMM BK OMAN	↓	1.510	-0.090
CONST MATERIALS			
COM STAT IND			
DHOFAR BVGS CO			
DOFAR CATTLEFEED	↑	1.800	+0.030
DHOFAR INVST DEV	↓	2.170	-0.010
DHFR MARBLE GRAN			
DHOFAR INSURANCE			
DHOFAR TOURISM			
FINANCIAL SERV			

Name		Last	Net.Ch
AUDI BANQUE		28.3750	
BQ. EUROPEENNE	*	3.1250	-0.1250
BOU KHALIL MKTS	*	2.0000	+0.0625
BQ LIBANAISE COM		17.3750	
BANK OF BEIRUT	*	7.5625	
BYBLOS BANK	*	2.5625	-0.1250
ETERNIT			
LEB. HLDGS FUND			
RYMCO			
STE CIM BLANCS B	*		
STE CIM BLANCS N			
STE CIM LIBANAIS		0.5938	+0.0001
SOLIDERE A	*	8	
SOLIDERE B	*	8.3750	
UNICERAMIC B C			

ABU DHABI

NBAD INDEX	3863.81	
COMM. BANK OF DUBAI	88	
NAT. BANK OF SHARJAH	17	
EMIRATES INT. BANK	50	
NAT. BANK OF RASALKHAIMAH	30	
NAT. BANK OF UMM AL QUWAIN	300	
ABU DHABI COMM. BANK	600	
INVEST BANK	42	
NAT. BANK OF FUJAIRAH	300	
NAT. BANK OF ABUDHABI	710	
DUBAI ISLAMIC BANK	22	50
NAT. BANK OF DUBAI	1020	
BANK OF SHARJAH	310	
COMM. BANK INTERNATIONAL	9	50
UNION NAT. BANK	48	
ABU DHABI ISLAMIC BANK	26	50
MASHREQ BANK	1300	
UNITED ARAB BANK	450	
FIRST GULF BANK	6	50
E T I S A L A T	1725	
ABU DHABI NAT. HOTELS CO	180	
NAT. MARINE DREDGING	640	
UNION PROPERTIES CO.	42	
ABU DHABI AVIATION	620	
ABU DHABI NAT. FOODSTUFF CO.	40	
DUBAI INVESTMENT CO.	16	50
ABU DHABI SHIP BUILDING CO.	33	
E M A A R CO.	31	50
OASIS INT. LEASING CO.	21	
T A B R E E D	11	50
J U L P H A R	4	25
PRIME BULDING TRADING EST.	10	
OMAN INSURANCE CO.	1025	
ALAIN AHLIA INSURANCE CO.	1400	
AL DAFRAH INSURANCE CO.	710	
ABU DHABI NAT. INSURANCE CO	116	
THE EMIRATE INSURANCE CO	900	
AL KHAZNEH INSURANCE CO.	150	
AL BUHAIRAH INSURANCE CO.	17	
DUBAI NAT. INSURANCE CO.	68	
UNION INSURANCE CO.	12	
AL WATHBEH INSURANCE CO	5	75
AL SHARJAH INSURANCE CO.	10	

KUWAIT

Stock Name		Last	NC
ARAB BNK CORP			
AERATED CONCRETE	↓	0.510	
ARABIAN GEN INV.	↓	0.204	
AHLEIA INS. CO.			
ARAB REAL EST.			
ARAB INS GROUP			
BKME KUWAIT			
BURGAN BANK	↓	0.184	-0.00
LIVESTOCK T.T CO			
NATIONALCLEANING	↑	0.680	
KWT COMPUTER CO.	↑	0.110	+0.00
COM. FACILITIES	↑	0.480	+0.00
FIRST INV. FUND			
KWT FOOD CO.	↓	0.550	-0.03
GULF CEMENT	↑	0.176	+0.00
GULF INS. CO.			
INT FIN ADVISERS	↓	0.114	-0.00
INTL INV GROUP			
INT'L INVEST PRJ	↓	0.142	-0.00
INDEPEN. PETROL	↓	0.285	-0.01
KWT NAT. CINEMA			
KUWAIT FOUNDRY			
KWT HOTELS CO.			
AL-AHLI BANK	↓	0.172	-0.00
AL-ARABI HOLDING	↓	0.285	-0.00
AREF INVEST GRP	↓	0.124	-0.00
AL-AHLEIA INV CO	↑	0.190	+0.00
AJIAL REAL EST.			
BAHRAIN INT. BNK	↑	0.126	+0.00
BOUBYAN PETROCH.	↓	0.188	
GULF CABLE IND.			
COMMERCIAL BANK	↓	0.168	
COAST INV & DEV.			
EDUCATIONAL SERV			
FUJAIRAH CEMENT	↓	0.108	
UNITED FISHERIES	↓	0.083	
GULF BANK	↑	0.445	+0.02
GULF GLASS CO.	↓	0.295	-0.00
HILAL CEMENT CO.			
INDUST INVEST CO	↓	0.166	-0.00
THE INT INVESTOR			
INT'L MURABAHA	↑	0.410	+0.01
KWT CEMENT CO.			
KWT FIN. CENTRE	↓	0.095	
KWT FIN. HOUSE	↑	0.780	

WILLIAM ENNENBACH

under WESTERN EYES

Comparative Advantage and Economic Development

One must accept the reality that different nations are endowed with different resources: natural; financial; human. Trade between nations should be based upon reciprocal exchange of these goods and services produced most efficiently by each trading partner. It would not be economical for a nation less able to manufacture one type of product to attempt to compete with another which is more capable of producing the given goods. When Ricardo pronounced his theory two hundred years ago, examples provided included England's manufactured cloth and Portugal's wine, when they were trading with each other, realizing comparative advantage.

In today's interdependent global economy, the concept of comparative advantage is even more important that in 1782. No nation can be self-sufficient in all goods, and given this reality, economic development planners need to focus on the advantages possessed by their particular nation, and concentrate available resources in maximizing output within these sectors. In this regard, the policy of some countries in this region in subsidizing production of agricultural goods at a much higher cost than importing such goods is one example of ignoring the concept of comparative advantage, for whatever reason they may give.

Jordan possesses specific advantages which can provide the foundation for economic development and growth. Specifically, the Jordan Valley possesses fertile agricultural lands and climate, enabling farmers to produce quality fruits and vegetables at prices competitive to other nations. As regards tourism, few other countries possess the historical sites which are present in Jordan. In addition, Aqaba offers the potential for major development and can serve as a catalyst to attract these tourists who now go to the Egyptian and Israeli resorts on the Red Sea. Minerals exist in abundance, and already make an important contribution to export earnings. Finally, the skilled and low-cost labor available can be used to lure manufacturing from the West.

Much attention is given to the economic rebirth of Beirut and many observers view Lebanon as the new financial center of the Arab world (as it was before the civil war). However, there is no reason for Jordan to concede this position, given the quality of our human resources. In this country we posses an many different resources as Lebanon, a lower cost of living, and a higher degree of political stability. What may be lacking is the confidence and entrepreneurial spirit that have always characterized the Lebanese. There is no reason, given Jordan's other advantages, that with the right leadership and encouragement the comparative advantages in this nation cannot be turned into the basis for long-term economic development and growth.

BAHRAIN PEGS DINAR TO DOLLAR

MANAMA (AFP) —Bahrain's most senior banker on Wednesday vowed that the Gulf state's currency, the dinar, would remain pegged to the dollar despite pressure from speculators on the region's currencies.

"There is no change in policy envisaged," Abdullah Hassan Saif, governor of the Bahrain Monetary Agency or central bank, told AFP in an interview. "Bahrain has two basic commodities for export, oil and aluminum. These commodities are priced in dollars and consequently revenue is generated in dollars," he said. "On the expenditure side, most imports are also priced in dollars, so it makes practical as well as financial sense to peg Bahrain's currency to the US dollar," he added.

Gulf currencies, most of which are pegged to the dollar at fixed exchange rates, have been coming under increasing pressure in recent weeks as plummeting oil prices begin to take their financial toll. Leading the assault have been US Hedge funds, spurred on by reports of massive Gulf budget deficits and continuing low crude prices. The greatest pressure has been on the Saudi riyal and although the kingdom's central bank has denied reports of intervention against speculators It has made it clear that it would do so if need be. Traders say pressure on the riyal has started a chain reaction on other Gulf currencies.

THE ARAB DAILY Invites

PHARMACIST
San'a Dababneh

Dear San'a:
My husband just suffered a mild heart attack. Our doctor has prescribed aspirin to him among various other drugs. How does aspirin work in relieving his condition?

Dear Reader:

The FDA is recognising that under a doctor's direction, aspirin can reduce the risk of death by 23% in a suspected heart attack if it is administered immediately and continued for 30 days.

In the case of your husband, who has already suffered a heart attack, using a low-dose of aspirin (18mg) may prevent a second.

Aspirin may help prevent a stroke in women (as well as men) who have experienced a Transient Ischemic attack or mini-stroke. Ask your doctor if aspirin therapy may be appropriate for you.

According to the British Heart Association, coronary heart disease is now the most common cause of death in women. Yet, according to a report in the British Medical Journal, researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health in the US have found that women who ate nuts more than five times a week reduced the risk of heart disease by 35 percent. The scientists believe that the unsaturated fats in nuts have a beneficial effect on serum lipids in the blood, which helps to lower cholesterol.

RANA ASFOUR
Health editor

IN A HURRY!

Healthful food for the fast lane

Eating on the run doesn't have to mean fat-dripping hamburgers and fries, candy bars and soft drinks. If you've stocked your home with fresh fruits and vegetables, low-fat meats, crackers and breads, you're only minutes away from healthful eating and then rushing off to do what you do.

Eating well on the run can help you keep a competitive edge. It won't make you get that raise but it will help you prepare for the stresses of a busy, competitive lifestyle.

There's a tendency to let diet become a last priority when you get busy, which only aggravates the situation because poor food choices make the body work harder.

The new trend is that more and more people are seeking nutritionists' advice on preparing a list of things they can eat in the car that are nutritious, but without a big mess.

The trick is to pack it at home. You'll find very few nutritious foods in vending machines, snack bars or convenience stores. Potato chips are fried in fat and covered with salt. Many candy bars contain more than you can imagine in terms of sugar and fat.

Fast-food restaurants are another quick-and-easy choice, but you won't find much nutritious quality there either.

So again, preparing your food at home before you go to work is the best bet. Fruits are nutritious, ready to eat and very portable. Oranges and apples are the ones that can stand travel with as little accidents on the road as possible.

Try breadsticks, and low fat crackers. Always keep them handy around the house and in easy access in the kitchen so you can just pick them up on your way out of the door.

Vegetables may also be another option for you to munch on along the way. You could prepare the vegetables a day ahead, cutting them into wedges and packing them up in the fridge ready to take with you to work the following morning. They'll make a wonderfully healthy snack that is virtually fat free.

Remember, you have to fuel your mind and body to keep them running for you. Unless you stock up on your vegetables, fruits, low-fat crackers, low-fat cheese and the like you'll leave your body tired and unable to finish the job you started.

LINGUINE WITH ZUCCHINI SAUC

Low fat, low cholesterol and quick

Recipe of the day
Makes 4 servings
Nutrient value per serving:
Calories: 494
Protein: 20g
Fat: 16g
Carbohydrate: 12g
Sodium: 289mg
Cholesterol: 23mg

Ingredients:

12 ounces linguine
2 tablespoons olive oil
2 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
1 1/2 pounds zucchini, coarsely shredded
1/4 cup plain yogurt
3/4 cup coarsely shredded Cheddar cheese (3 ounces)
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper

Method:

1. Cook linguine according to package directions until soft, firm but tender.

2. Meanwhile, heat oil in large, heavy skillet over medium-high heat. Add garlic; cook stirring, until lightly browned, about 30 seconds. Add one-fourth of zucchini. Increase heat to high; cook, stir until zucchini is well co with oil. Add remaining zu ni; cook, tossing occasio until tender, about 3 minu Turn in to large serving bo

3. Drain linguine. Add zu chini along with yogurt, sa mix. Add the cheese, salt pepper. Serve immediately.

BIRTH CONTRO

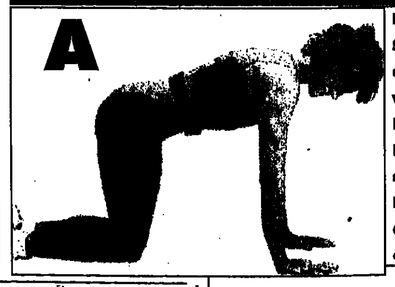
(UPI) — Planned Parenthood of New York City says 97 out of 100 pharmacists are either giving out the wrong information or know nothing about emergency contraception.

During a two-week period last fall, PPNYC volunteers called 100 New York City pharmacies, 20 in each borough, to gauge pharmacists' awareness, knowledge of and attitudes toward emergency contraception.

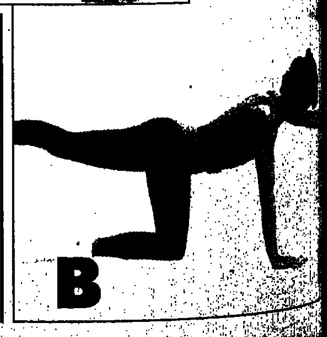
The results, only three pharmacists relayed thorough and accurate information about emergency contraception the use of ordinary birth-control pills in higher dosages to prevent pregnancy within 72 hours of unprotected sex. Used correctly, emergency contraception reduces the risk of p nancy by 75 percent.

Experts say about half of a pregnancies in the United St about three-and-a-half-m year, are unintended. They e mate the widespread know and use of emergency contra half those numbers.

WEEKEND TRIMMER



Begin on all fo
Stretch your left leg b
and your right arm b
ward, at the same tim
Hold for a 10 co
Repeat, then sw
sides.
Keep your bac
and stomach m
ed.



DEATH TOLL FROM TAINTED MEAT REACHES 14

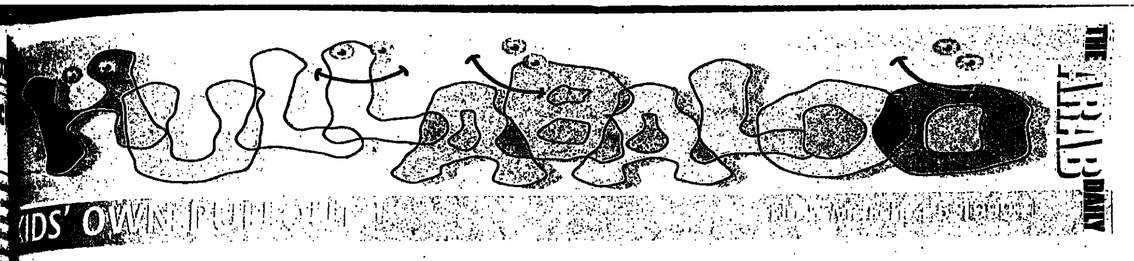
CHICAGO (AP) — The death toll linked to contaminated hot dogs and deli meats made by Sara Lee Corp.'s Bil Mar Foods in Michigan has reached 14, the nation's second-deadliest outbreak involving Listeria bacteria.

In addition, the tainted meat has been blamed for six miscarriages and 97 illnesses in 22 states from early August to Jan. 17, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Monday.

On Dec. 22, Bil Mar began a recall of 6.75 million kilograms of hot dogs and cold cuts produced at its Zeeland, Michigan, plant after a rare strain of Listeria was found in both opened and unopened packages.

Listeria can be found in soil, water and various raw foods.

The bacteria can cause death or severe illness in women who are pregnant, people with weakened immune systems, newborns and the elderly.



BIRDS OF PARADISE

Two thieves sneak in and dig a hole at the edge of a forest. These two sly thieves want to catch animals, which they want to sell for lots of money.

Farfoosh the rabbit, Atrees the bear, Zeinah the snake and Sa'ad, a greedy jeweler all find themselves inside the same hole that night.

This is the story of "Birds of Paradise," the first travelling puppet theater show in Jordan, written by Khalid Miqdad.

The puppets and props are all handmade and the puppeteers "all work hard to make sure that the story of the play educates children on the importance of worthy values and morals in life."

Miqdad's aim is to perform at private schools across the Kingdom.

"This activity is still neglected at some schools," says Miqdad, "even though officials would like to see this activity take place at all schools."

The travelling theater has a new play written for it every two-months, according to Miqdad.

And to draw interest to the work, Miqdad and his group of puppeteers ask children "questions about the story" and hand out prizes to "whoever answers the questions correctly."

HERE IS A TASTE OF THE FIRST SHOW PERFORMED AT AL-ITTIHAD SCHOOLS, AT TABARBOUR.

Dialogue:

Farfoosh, the rabbit, enters singing:
"I am the rabbit Farfoosh, I like big carrots and I am a quick jumper."
"Oops," Poor Farfoosh falls into a deep hole.
Then a big bear walks in.
Atrees appears, singing: "Hella Hop, I am the bear, I like to spend the night under the moonlight."
Atrees falls in the same hole over Farfoosh.
"Oh, my wife Sheta, are you here my love?"
Farfoosh: "No, you idiotic bear, I'm not your wife I'm Farfoosh."
Atrees: "Oh, Farfoosh, how are you? How did you fall in this hole?"
Farfoosh "As you did, Atrees."
The snake Zeinah enters singing, "I am the green snake and ...Ooops!
Before she continues her song, she falls in the same hole.
Atrees: "Oh, my beloved wife Sheta, surely you were looking for me and you fell in this hole."
Zeinah: "You are a foolish bear Atrees, I'm not your wife, I'm Zeinah."
Breaking the silence, Sa'ad, the greedy Jeweler appears.
"I have one million now and within a few months I will have 2 million more," brags Sa'ad.
"Money is the best thing in the world, I will buy my neighbor's house, and I will buy my friend's supermarket and I will buy my brother's farm. Then I will mix gold with copper and sell it as pure gold, I will mix silver with tin and sell it as pure silver, and I will cheat everyone and become the richest man in the world, ooh."

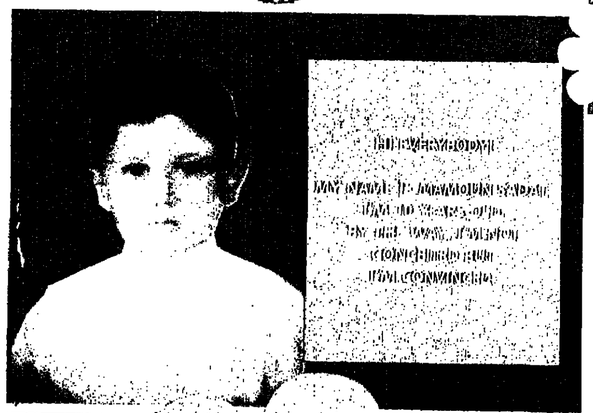
The greedy jeweler finishes his words and he falls into the same hole.
Farfoosh knows the greedy jeweler very well and hates him and greets him angrily.
Late at night, an old kind farmer passes by the hole and hears noise.
He shouts "anybody there?"
Farfoosh, Atrees, Zeinah and the greedy Sa'ad shout: "Here, down here, we are in the hole, help us please!"
The kind farmer passes down a rope to get out.
Atrees is the first one to get out from the hole, then Farfoosh and then Zeinah.
"How about me? you forgot me, please don't leave me here alone," cries Sa'ad.
The farmer: "Ok, wait I will pass down the rope and pull you out."
Farfoosh: "No, don't help him. He deserves this punishment, because he is greedy and cheats people."
The Farmer: "I have never judged people for their past, I will give him a chance and do him a favor."
Then the kind farmer gets the greedy jeweler out.
Sa'ad: "Thank you kind man, I will never forget your favor, if you ever need anything, come to me, I live in Nawader city."
Zeinah: "You are a kind farmer, I live at the edge of the city. If you ever need help, come and visit me."
Atrees: "I live in a cave near the city, please come and visit me."
Farfoosh: "I live in Nawader city, if you ever need help come to me."
Months pass, the farmer needs money to find a job, he decides to go to the Jeweler for help.
On his way to the city, he meets the bear Atrees.
Atrees: "You are the kind farmer, don't you remember me? I'm the bear you helped out of the hole that night."
Farmer: "Oh it's you, how are you?, of course I remember you."
Atrees: "Please wait here for a minute, I will come back soon."
The bear quickly returns with a jar of honey and gives it to the farmer.
Atrees: "Here Sir, please accept this simple gift."
Farmer: "Oh thank you kind bear, it's delicious... yum, yum."
Then the rabbit Farfoosh appears.
"Oh, it is you kind man! how are you? How can I help you?"
Farmer: "I'm fine, but I came here to meet Sa'ad, because I have no job, nor money now, and I will ask him to find a job for me."
"Can you wait here for a while, Sir?"
"Ok."
Farfoosh goes to the castle, goes to the small princess' room, steals her necklace and sneaks out back to the farmer.
Farfoosh: "This is for you kind man for the favor you did."
Then Farfoosh takes him to the Jeweler and leaves him.
The farmer knocks the door.
Sa'ad: "who are you?"
Farmer: "I'm the farmer who saved your life when you were in the hole, don't you remember me?"
Sa'ad: "Oh, I remember you, how are you? What are you doing in our city?"
The farmer tells him his story and asks him to buy the necklace from him. The greedy jeweler accepts his offer.
"Oh, I have seen this necklace before. It is the princess' necklace. I will give it to the King, tell him that the farmer stole it and get a gift from him," thinks the greedy jeweler to himself.
The greedy jeweler did exactly this.
The king's soldiers arrested the kind farmer and put him in the jail.
Zeinah, the snake, saw the farmer and what had happened to him and promised to help him.
She goes to the castle and takes back the necklace again and asks: "Tell the story to the king, so he will believe you this time."
The farmer does what Zeinah the snake tells him. After the farmer tells the story, the king releases him and employs him as a counselor.

by **ROLA SHAKIB**

MY PHOTO & MY STORY

HI!
I'M TAREQ SUHEIMAT...TWO YEARS OLD. WHEN I WAS A BABY, I USED TO CRAWL BUT NOW...LOOK AT ME!!
I WAIT FOR THE BUS.

SEND YOUR PHOTOS & STORIES TO P.O.BOX 962196 AMMAN



DON'T I JUST LOOK LIKE A RUNWAY MODEL
LAJEEN AWAD
AGE: 1 YEAR

UNCLE ART'S FUNLAND

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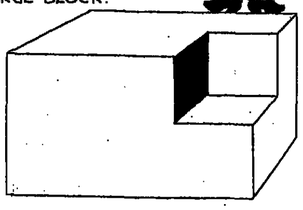
ILLUSIONS

STUDY THIS PICTURE CAREFULLY. FIRST YOU MAY SEE A SMALL BLOCK TOUCHING THE CEILING.
NOW LOOK FOR A SQUARE CUTOUT OF A LARGER BLOCK.
NEXT YOU MAY FIND A SMALL BLOCK IN FRONT OF A LARGE BLOCK.



DRAWING FUN

FINISH DRAWING THESE FACES.

Pen-Tab Paper Store
PEZ You'll flip your lid
PEZ with this great candy dispenser!

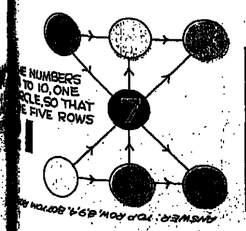
SP+ =
COMPLETE AND COLOR. CUT OUT, PUT ... CARE OF THIS PAPER. ENTRIES ARE ...

BREAK ... SIZES ... EACH WEEK
TOYBOX
Giga Pets
Tech Wonders Giga Pigbacks™
Giga Pounce™ Giga Pets Plus™

...EST ENTRY

...E THIS PUZZLE AND ...U WILL GET THE NAME ...CERTAIN KIND OF BIRD. ...ATELY COLOR YOUR ENTRY ...AND SEND IT TO UNCLE ART.

...AND ADDRESS. MAIL TO UNCLE ART'S FUNLAND, ...NEATNESS AND ACCURACY. WINNERS NOTIFIED.



...E NUMBERS ... TO 10, ONE ...CLE, SO THAT ...E FIVE ROWS

ANSWER: TOP ROW, 4,9,2, BOTTOM ...

RIDDLES 'N' GIGGLES

TEACHER: WHAT IS THE CHEMICAL FORMULA FOR WATER? STUDENT: H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O. TEACHER: WHERE DID YOU GET THAT IDEA? STUDENT: YOU TOLD US IT WAS H TO O.

ONE MORE GAME OF LEAP FROG AND I'LL CROAK.

WHAT KIND OF BIRD SITS DOWN A LOT?

A STOOL PIGEON.

USE THE CLUES TO CHANGE WET TO DRY IN FIVE MOVES. YOU MUST CHANGE ONLY ONE LETTER AT A TIME AND MAKE A NEW WORD WITH EACH MOVE.

WET	1 A TENNIS TERM	2 PAST TENSE OF SIT
3 TO SPEAK	4 24 HOURS	DRY

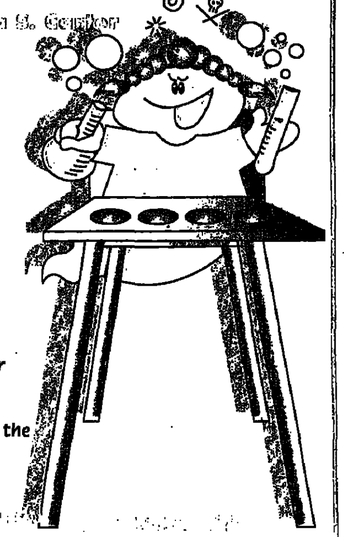
SOLUTION: WET, SET, SAT, SAY, DAY, DRY.

USE THE VOWELS "A, E, I, O, U" TO COMPLETE FOUR ANIMALS' NAMES.

A COUGAR, A BEAR, A OTTER, A LION

EIRD SCIENCE

Rebecca L. Gordon



WRITE SECRET MESSAGES TO YOUR FRIENDS!

You can write invisible messages to your friends that only they will be able to see! Don't ever worry about parents or teachers being able to read your notes! Here's how:

You need:

a microwavable container
1 teaspoon cornstarch
60 ml cold water
a toothpick (or an art pen, the kind with no ink in it)
paper
a small sponge
iodine

a small, empty container
water

In the heatproof, non-metal container, stir together the cornstarch and water until a smooth texture. Heat this in the microwave on high for 1 minute stirring every 15 seconds. Remove the mixture from the microwave and dip the end of the toothpick or pen in the mixture. Write your message on the paper making sure to coat the toothpick with more of the mixture as needed.

To read your message:

Put 2 ml of iodine (1/2 teaspoon) into the small container. Add 20-25 ml (4-5 teaspoons) of water until the mixture is a golden color. Dip your sponge in the iodine solution and lightly wet the paper. The message will magically appear! Share this with your friends so that you can each write a message and decode each other's messages with the iodine solution!

Next week:

Discover how dish soap is able to get things clean!

FUTURE PRIMA BALLERINA'S IN THE MAKING

by SAMAR HIJJAWI

"Rise up. slowly, come down, lift your left leg, straight back please," these are Rania Qamhawi's instructions to her ballerinas.

Rania Qamhawi, who has been teaching ballet for a while now, makes sure the dancers in their pink leotards, white leggings, ballerina slippers and colorful headbands are all excited and ready to start their lesson.

The piano tunes sing in the air and all toes move to paint a memorable scene of graceful dancing.

"Layla, stop looking around," Rania Qamhawi gently ushers Layla, one of the ballerinas, who appears to be busy checking who's new in the group.

They all enjoy dancing, nevertheless like all performers they love the extra attention more, which Rania Qamhawi, gives out generously. "How do I do this Miss Rania," each one of them asks her eagerly.

They all adore the class and cannot wait to attend. Eight-year old Sana' says "I love ballet because the audience can look at me," while Wasna adds "ballet makes my legs feel nice."

Shy seven-year old Layla, on the other hand, says she loves ballet, but does not know why.

Most of them have been practicing for at least three-years, except Lujain, 12, who says she loves "ballet because it is nice, and my mom encourages me."

Lujain started taking ballet lessons six-months ago.

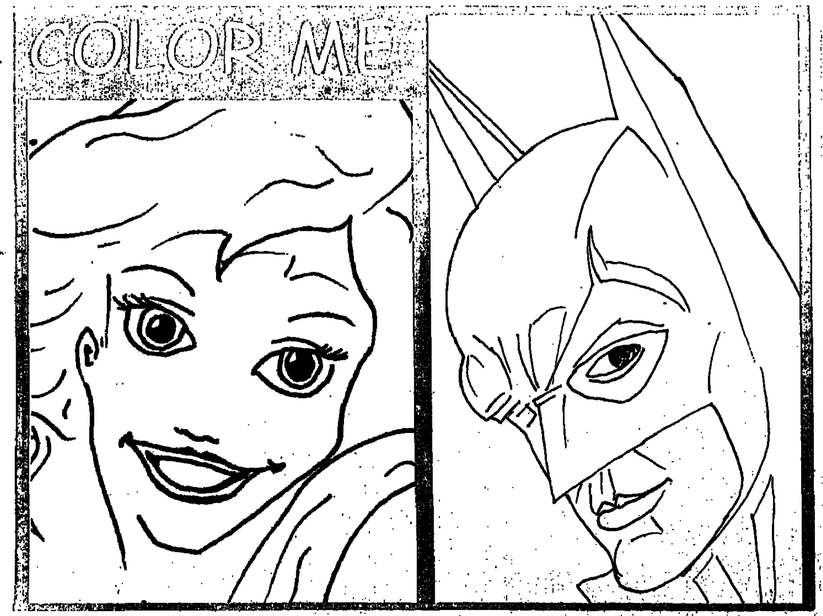
And they are not all girls. Twelve-year old Khaled, a ballerino started dancing when he was six.

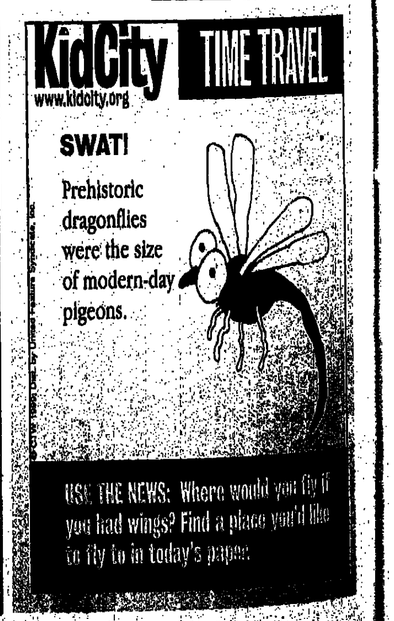
"Ballet is nice, romantic and makes me fit. My parents encouraged me, especially my Aunt Amal," he says.

The whole class goes on with their practice; some start to giggle for they cannot follow and others start to whisper to show their mates that they messed up.

One last thing that Rania would like to say to all of our young readers, "if you ever see a ballerina on TV and you would like to look the same, add some imagination, and magic into your life, then ballet is your thing."

(Rania Qamhawi teaches ballet at the Performing Art Center of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation.)





SAFER CIGARETTES WERE PATENTED BUT NEVER MADE

LONDON (R) — Tobacco manufacturers could have produced safer cigarettes that would have reduced the health risks of smoking and prevented thousands of deaths, researchers said on Wednesday.

A new report from the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) and Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) showed the international tobacco industry had 57 US patents approved for modifications that could have reduced the chemicals in cigarettes that cause cancer, heart disease and emphysema.

But the tobacco companies never made them because producing better cigarettes would have been expensive and an admission that the existing ones were "unsafe."

"The cigarette is like a dirty syringe for taking the drug nicotine. What we now know is that the tobacco companies could have made it less dirty," Dr Martin Jarvis, of the ICRF, said in a statement to launch the report.

"The current products cause premature death for half of all long-term smokers, so even a small improvement could save thousands of lives."

The report reviewed 25 years of patents for designs to reduce some of the toxic cancer-causing compounds in the more than 4,000 chemicals in tobacco smoke.

Companies considered adding catalysts, similar to those on cars, to reduce carbon monoxide and nitrous oxides. Other patents included chemical filters to remove hydrogen cyanide and hydrogen sulfide and acetaldehyde which could have reduced respiratory illnesses.

"In attempting to develop a 'safe' cigarette you are, by implication, in danger of being interpreted as accepting that the current product is 'unsafe' and this is not a position I think we should take." Patrick Sheehy, a former chief executive of British American Tobacco, said in a 1986 internal memo cited in the report.

That document was released during recent tobacco court cases in the United States.

The report said additional costs to the companies, failure of regulators to set standards, and the development of low-tar cigarettes as an alternative were other reasons why the safer cigarettes were never produced.

VOLCANO RESEARCH

A University of Miami scientist believes he might have found a way to improve the predicting of volcano eruptions.

Marine Geology and Geophysics Professor Tim Dixon says what he and his associates hope to be able to do is issue long-term alerts as much as two months in advance of the event. He says the domes of volcanoes appear to swell before an eruption. Using precise Global Positioning System satellite systems, accurate to within a few centimeters, Dixon is monitoring the domes of volcanoes in California and Mexico.

Next month, he'll start placing four additional sensors on Mexico's second highest volcano, Popocatept which is threatening to erupt 45 miles southeast of Mexico City.

Bob Tilling of the U-S Geological Survey says GPS monitoring of volcanos is probably going to be the primary way to keep track of them them in the future.

PARTY SAVERS

On a diet and thinking of not going to that party. You can just imagine the variety of foods there and if you shut your eyes harder you'll virtually feel that you can smell the pizza already.

Well, fret no more, with these points, my friend, to save you at the party, keeping your diet on track and just allowing you to enjoy the fun. Here goes:

1. Don't go overly hungry.
2. Fix a plate and just enjoy it.
3. Survey the selections before choosing.
4. Be the last through the line. There will be less left and the others will have a head start on you. Besides, they'll be finishing their second servings while you're still on your first.
5. Concentrate on the social aspect and not the food.
6. Avoid the high-fat items.
7. Take low-fat dairy alternatives when available.
8. Sit away from the food table and the bowl of nuts.

PEDIATRICIANS GROUP SAY NO SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS TO CIRCUMCISION

CHICAGO (AP) — America's most influential group of pediatricians has concluded that the benefits of circumcising newborns aren't significant enough to recommend it as a routine procedure.

The American Academy of Pediatrics stopped short of advising against circumcision. But the group recommended for the first time Monday that newborns get pain relief for it.

"The weight of the evidence would have to be significant for the academy to recommend an elective surgical procedure on every newborn male, and the evidence is not sufficient for us to make such a recommendation," said Dr. Carole Lannon, chairwoman of the task force that wrote the new policy statement for the academy, which has 55,000 members.

Over the last 15 years or so, a grass-roots anti-circumcision movement and debate in the medical community have stirred new doubt and discussion about the procedure, with opponents saying it leaves long-term psychological scars and diminishes sexual pleasure.

"I think what that means is the medical debate is over," said Ronald Goldman, director of the Circumcision Resource Center, an anti-circumcision organization.

"I think circumcision is now an ethical issue. It challenges us to empathize with newborn infants."

Just how many newborns are circumcised annually is unclear. Federal figures show that nearly two-thirds of American boys born in 1995 were circumcised, but the pediatrics academy said those statistics were taken from too small a sample to be reliable.

The new policy statement, outlined in a report in the March issue of Pediatrics, the academy's journal, says parents should take into account cultural and religious traditions as well as the advice of a pediatrician when considering circumcision.

In its last policy statement on the issue, in 1989, the academy said circumcision has potential medical benefits as well as risks and should be carefully explained to parents.

After reviewing scientific evidence, the task force did find some medical benefits of circumcision. Boys who have not been circumcised are as much as 12 times more likely to get urinary tract infections than those who have been circumcised. Uncircumcised boys had a 1-in-100 chance of developing such an infection in their first year of life; for circumcised boys the chance was 1 in 1,000.

Some evidence shows penile cancer is more prevalent among uncircumcised males. But the disease is so rare, striking just 1 in 100,000 American males a year, that the researchers found any added risk insignificant.

The academy's report said pain relief is recommended because studies have shown that infants circumcised without anesthesia experience pain and bodily stress.

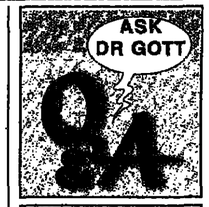
Make the most of your natural rhythm

These days, most of us have to live by the clock on the wall rather than our internal clock, but you can help yourself to make the most of peak performance periods and to cope with fatigue.

1. Learn to recognize your own individual circadian rhythm. Keep a diary of the times of day you feel most efficient and energetic and when you feel a slump. Then you can allocate more difficult tasks to the times you're at your best. Many people feel a slump after lunch.

2. Once you've recognized your own pattern, try to live by it as much as possible, rather than forcing yourself to work to other people's.

3. To keep your body clock stable, try and develop some sort of routine with regular hours. Find your own sleep-wake rhythm and match this to your waking and sleeping hours. If you perform best getting up and going to bed early, or vice versa, stick to this as much as is practical. If you find it difficult to drop off to sleep at night, try getting up a little bit earlier.



DEAR DR. GOTT: I want to lose 20 pounds. As a 14-year-old girl who weighs 110, I believe I am overweight; all my female classmates weigh about 90 pounds. How can I lose weight safely?

DEAR READER: As a general rule, anyone can lose weight safely by sharply reducing fat and eliminating sugar from the diet. This approach is usually healthfy and effective.

Having said this, I must caution you. There is an epidemic among today's teen-agers to lose inappropriate amounts of weight in order to achieve some fictitious ideal of slimness. In many instances, the compulsion to lose pounds can lead to — or be part of — an eating disorder. Therefore, because of your age, I urge you to check with your pediatrician before dieting. Your goal of 20 pounds is almost 20 percent of your body weight. A loss of that magnitude could well be unhealthy for a girl your age. Judging from your present weight, I believe that you would be making a mistake to lose more.

Your doctor may be able to reassure you that you needn't match your classmates. As all of you mature, you will tend to grow in different directions — up, out and around. I suggest that you pay less attention to your appropriate weight of 110, make sure that you are eating a well-balanced diet, cut back on junk food, and wait to see how your body develops in the next two to three years.

DEAR DR. GOTT: About a year ago, I saw a psychiatrist who prescribed Ativan. I'm now down to one pill a day, but I still feel depressed and fatigued. My family wants me to stop the medicine. What is your opinion?

DEAR READER: Ativan is recommended by the manufacturer for short-term treatment of anxiety disorders, both with and without depression. The drug is not an antidepressant. Moreover, it can cause many side effects, including palpitations, intestinal upset and fatigue.

I believe that you would be better served by taking an antidepressant, such as Paxil or Wellbutrin. These drugs are specifically designed to treat depression. If, on a therapeutic dose, you still feel anxious, you could use an occasional Ativan to reduce your anxiety level. I suggest that you return to your psychiatrist and emphasize your feelings of depression.

LINUS TORVALDS' OS COMES OF AGE

AP Photo

SAN JOSE (AP) — Linus Torvalds, creator of the Linux operating system (OS), answer questions on the exhibit floor of Linux World Conference in downtown San Jose, California, earlier this week.

About 8,000 technology experts devoted to a software for running computers called Linux will talk about how Linux may one day be a viable alternative to the overwhelmingly dominance of Microsoft Windows OS.

Linux is a version of the famed Unix OS, which has been used on Internet servers since the web was born in 1969, as the US military funded ARPRANET.

Unlike Windows, Linux source code is available for free download on the Internet.

Saving nickels and dimes:

THE STORY OF 'CABLESE'

Human beings are famously inventive and in discarding words and even whole languages when they are no longer useful. A good deal of the inventiveness is driven by technological change, though remnants of the old era survive in the new.

For example, virtually no one dials a telephone anymore - you punch numbers. Yet we stubbornly stick to the term "dial." Or do you find yourself, as I do, referring to "records" as you pull out a great CD? Or recalling old tunes that were on the "flip side."

But the saddest tales of all is how technological progress has essentially killed off a distinguished old language known as "cablese".

As in "cable" and "ese". Cablese, a variation on the English language, was invented by foreign correspondents for wire services and newspapers in the days when there were no computer satellite systems to rush your words around the world and no fax machines. To send your story home, all you had were slow and difficult telegraphic cable offices. Cablese was invented to save money. It was about the never-ending war between the clerk behind the Western Union desk and the journalist over what constituted a single word.

Daniel Schorr, a commentator at National Public Radio who spent seven years in the 1930s with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, says that cablese was born of "constant struggle to save nickels." Since the big telegraphic companies charged by the word, one trick was to try to turn two words into one. The broader trick was to scrunch whole thoughts together in a very small number of words. This was done with the liberal use of Latin prefixes (um-, ex-, pro-) — and some inventiveness.

You could not just put three words together and have the cable company count it as one. They were too smart for that. "The whole art of cablese was taking two words and turning them around and making one," Schorr explains. One of his personal favorites is a cable from an editor to a reporter who was filing far too many words on a particular event. The editor's way of shutting the reporter down was this two-word cable: PROCHRISSAKE OFFLAY. Yes, cablese could be a form of pig Latin. Schorr, by the way, believes that one of the few words of cablese that has entered the popular language is DOWNPLAY.

Mike Keats, managing editor of Inter Press Service and a veteran of 30-years at United Press International, offers some examples. Instead of saying, long-windedly, "I am leaving Johannesburg and going to Nairobi," you'd cable your boss: EYE EXJOBURGING NAIROBIWARD. Three words instead of eight. ("EYE" was always used in place of "I" so it wouldn't get lost or be confused with a number.) To report that the queen had just given birth to a new baby girl, the economical way to do it was: QUEEN DAUGHTERED. A famous angry cable from a reporter to an editor began: "UPSTICK JOB," and then suggested where the job could be stuck, using the -ward formulation after an anatomical reference.

Keats tells of an exchange of cables between Evelyn Waugh and his London editor about a British nurse thought to have been killed by an explosion in Ethiopia in mid-1930s. The editor wanted a story and sent Waugh the following: "NEED 200 WORDS UPBLOWN NURSE." But it turned out the nurse in question was in fact alive and well. Waugh replied succinctly: "NURSE UNUPBLOWN."

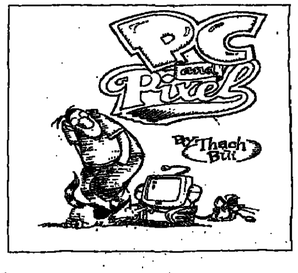
Sometimes, cables were simply silly fun. A reporter had failed in his dispatch to note the age of Hastings Kamuzu Banda, president of what was then Nyasaland. His editor wrote: "HOW OLD BANDA." The intrepid correspondent answered: "OLD BANDA FINE HOW YOU."

Anne Zusy, a fonner senior editor on the New York Times foreign desk and a veteran of the Associated Press, says "un"-formulations were especially useful to editors. A cable to a reporter that read "UNFIND STORY" or "UNSITE STORY" might loosely translate: "Where the hell is your story?" The way to tell a correspondent -not to file anything was to declare: "UNNEED STORY."

To be really economical, Keats says, you could use a numbering system invented by Western Union. The number 30, for instance, meant the end of a transmission. For years, reporters of all types, even those in the newsroom, would mark the end of their stories with a jaunty "-30-".

This column has gone on too long. I can see my editor punching frantically at the telegraph: OFFLAY, DOWNHOLD, UNNEED MORE, UPSHUT. And so I close with this: -30-.

By Washington Post Columnist
E.J. DIONNE JR.



DVD STANDARD WAY CHIP MAKERS, MUSIC TALK

BURBANK, California (BUSINESS WIRE) — A number of computer corporations and electronics manufacturers have agreed to jointly develop a standard to protect Digital Versatile Disk (DVD)-Audio.

IBM, Intel, Matsushita Electric (Panasonic) and Toshiba today jointly announced the development of a content protection framework for DVD.

This framework has been in development over the last 12 months as a result of discussions among the four technology companies and the world's five leading music companies: BMG, EMI, Sony Music Entertainment, Universal Music Group and Warner Music Group.

The public release of this music industry-supported copy protection framework is the last major step enabling DVD-Audio to be commercially introduced into the marketplace this year. DVD-Audio is the next generation music industry format based on the high capacity DVD technology.

DVD-Audio offers significant improvements over present audio formats, including very high-quality multi-channel sound for home theater and automobile listening, artwork, liner notes and music videos.

In anticipation of the finalization of the DVD Forum's release of Version 1.0 of the DVD-Audio specification, several music companies encouraged the four computer and consumer electronics companies to define a framework for the copy protection of music released on DVD-Audio discs.

The proposed framework was chosen to represent the best interests of content owners, consumers, PC systems integrators and hardware manufacturers in promoting the widespread support and development of products based on the DVD-Audio specification.

The new framework uses watermark and encryption technologies created or identified by the four technology companies to protect the music made available on the prerecorded DVD-Audio disc.

The copy protected DVD-Audio discs can be played only on licensed players, in a way similar to that used for today's DVD-Video discs and players. The framework also includes a set of options which provide music industry content owners with the flexibility to address the needs of consumers as the market for DVD-Audio products develops.

"The framework was designed to satisfy both the music industry's copyright protection requirements and the consumers' need to protect their existing audio investments," said Alan Bell, IBM program director, digital media standards, and co-chairman of the Copy Protection Technical Working Group (CPTWG).

The framework provides consumers with the ability to make one digital copy, per recorder, of the original audio content for personal use at a sound-quality equal to CD-Audio or less.

For example, a consumer who purchases a DVD-Audio disc for a home player would be able to make one copy on recordable CD, MiniDisc or DAT media - for existing automobile or other personal music players. Content owners will have the option of allowing additional copies at various levels of quality, up to and including the full quality of the prerecorded DVD-Audio original.

IBM, Intel, Matsushita Electric (Panasonic) and Toshiba have all actively contributed to developing methods to protect digital entertainment content from unauthorized copying.

For example, they have participated in the efforts to develop the DVD Content Scrambling System (CSS).

IBM is the world's largest information technology company, with 80 years of leadership in helping businesses innovate. IBM is helping media and entertainment companies worldwide take advantage of the business opportunities made possible by digital technology.

Intel, the world's largest chip maker, is also a leading manufacturer of personal computer, networking and communications products. Additional information is available at www.intel.com/pressroom.

Best known for its Panasonic products, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. (NYSE: MC) — is among the world's leading producers of electronic and electric products for consumer, business and industrial use. Technics is the company's premier audio brand. Matsushita has more than 275,000 employees worldwide and had sales of $59.8 billion for the last fiscal year. Overseas operations include over 200 companies in 46 countries. For more information, visit www.panasonic.com.

Toshiba Corporation, with over 189,000 employees worldwide and annual sales of over $40 billion, is an integrated manufacturer of products spanning information and communications systems, information media and consumer products, electronic components, and power systems and industrial equipment.

E-mail as a lifeline:

TWO ISPS' DOWNTIME SHOWS HOW PRECIOUS

E-MAIL HAS BECOME a lifeline for many individuals and companies in Jordan. So much so, that a routine server upgrade at two Internet Service Providers (ISPs) left both specialists and amateurs worried for hours.

Last Monday, Index conducted an upgrade on its e-mail server, which left its subscribers offline for hours. Its neighbor, Destinations, also decided that it was about time to upgrade its e-mail server, according to a company official there.

Unluckily for Index though, a software glitch cost them precious man-hours.

"We were upgrading our e-mail server software and the user export failed due to a software glitch with Netscape, the software that we are using. The new version would not accept our customers user I.D.s," Mohammad Ghannam, Index's technical manager told The Arab Daily.

Subsequently, Index's staff spent a whole day assigning their 3,000-strong subscriber-base new passwords. "We had to give all of our customers new passwords," Ghannam said.

And because Index has subscriber plans, whereby customers get more than one e-mail address per account, the firm had to reassign passwords to over 3,500 e-mail addresses.

In the midst of this process, Index's customers lost a portion of their e-mail, according to Ghannam. "When the user I.D.s failed to export to the upgrade, we were left offline for around an hour," he said.

This "bounced back some of the mail," Ghannam admitted.

When users try to send e-mail to servers with hard disks full to the brim, an error message "no fatal error" appears. When this message is encountered, e-mail senders are advised to resend their e-mail to the destination again.

The error message typically appears after an e-mail server has attempted to send mail to the required destination for no less than three-hours.

In more technical details, Destinations' Abdullah Jana described the route of bounced mail, assuring that mail cannot go into plain oblivion.

"When mail cannot reach its destination here at our mail server, it falls back to Hashem One and if it cannot reach Hashem One it falls back to UUNet in Florida," he said.

Similar to Ghannam, Jana denied intentional foul play, saying that his company was "just upgrading its e-mail server," adding that "no mail was lost either."

"We have not changed any of our customers passwords," Jana assured.

On the level of security, Ghannam stressed that at no point was any of their customer's privacy compromised. "This was not a hack," he told The Arab Daily.

Last month, Global One, Jordan's first ISP which launched in April 1996, was hacked by an unidentified group.

The group claimed in a cheeky message that it had roamed Global One's network "for weeks," something that the companies general manger denied. Later in February, the firm's 6,000 subscribers were banned from surfing webmail provider Hotmail's site because of an Upgrade.

There were over 20,000 Internet users in Jordan at the end of 1998, according to NUA, an Irish web survey firm. In May, state-owned Jordan Telecom plans to launch an ISP/Data provider to compete with the countries seven ISPs.

by AHMED NASER
Technology Correspondent

ICANN: NEW ORGANIZATION TO MANAGE WEB DOMAINS

SINGAPORE (AFP) — A top-level advisory panel has endorsed the management of technical aspects of the Internet by the private sector in a fresh bid to streamline usage of the booming worldwide web, officials said Wednesday.

The endorsement was made by the Governmental Advisory Committee of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) which held its inaugural meeting in Singapore Tuesday.

"We saw a broad cross-section of the community of nations express strong support for the idea that the Internet is best managed by the Internet community itself," said Paul Twomey, chairman of the Governmental Advisory Committee, in a statement.

Until late 1998, the Internet's technical administration was performed by or on behalf of the United States government, the statement said.

Representatives from the European Union and 17 nations including the United States, Australia, Japan and Singapore attended the meeting, held on the sidelines of the Internet World Asia conference here.

Also present were members of key multilateral organizations such as the International Telecommunications Union, the World Intellectual Property Organization and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

ICANN is a new, non-profit international corporation formed to supervise the Internet's core technical management functions.

From now to September 2000, ICANN will gradually assume responsibility for coordinating domain name system management, internet protocol parameter assignment coordination and server system management.

The statement said the growing size and international importance of the Internet needed the creation of a technical management body that was both formalized in structure, and more fully reflective of geographic diversity.

Industry figures show Internet usage grew by 46 percent in 1998 over the previous year, and that 43 million machines were connected to the Internet last year, compared to just some two million in 1994.

"In Asia alone, there are about 12 million users and the value of Internet commerce transactions is expected to grow from 700 million US dollars to 2.6 billion US dollars this year," said Michael Yap, chief executive of Singapore's National Computer Board.

"But all these developments will be eclipsed by what will be unfolding over the next few years. There will be 300 million users in 2002, and electronic commerce transactions are expected to reach 1.3 billion US dollars in 2003," he added.

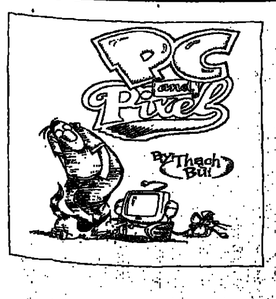
Yap was speaking at ceremonies opening the Internet World Asia conference.

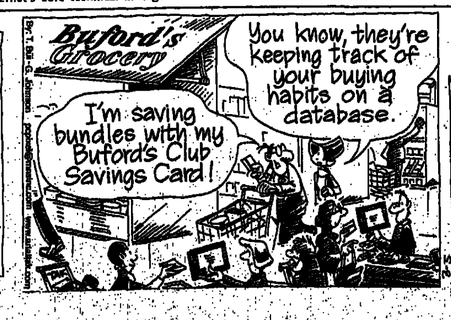
Apart from electronic commerce, another driving force for increasing Internet usage was the pervasiveness of broadband, a means of transmitting data, voice and video at very high speeds, he added.

Access devices to broadband now in use totaled half-a-million, and this was projected to grow to 9.1 million over the next four years, he said, citing industry figures.

"The coming together of PC-based Internet access, interactive TV, cable Internet and broadband content is clearly happening," Yap said.

Singapore, which is going full-steam on its bid to become an intelligent island in the region, is set to bring its flagship broadband project, Singapore ONE into the mainstream by stepping up its promotion among the masses, he added.





SIGNORI DOUBLE HELPS BOLOGNA CRUSH LYON

Bologna's midfielder Guiliano Gentilini (L) and Lyon's Joseph-Desire Job struggle for a ball during their UEFA Cup's quarter final soccer match Tuesday, March 2, 1999.

BOLOGNA (R) — Former Italian striker Giuseppe Signori scored twice as Bologna crushed Olympique Lyon 3-0 on Tuesday to take a giant step towards their first UEFA Cup semifinal.

Signori put his side ahead in the fifth minute with an acrobatic volley from a seemingly impossible angle after he stole in at the back post to meet a deep cross from the right.

His shot wrongfooted Lyon goalkeeper Gregory Coupet, bounced off a post and trickled into the net.

Signori struck again four minutes after the interval to make the quarter-final first leg tie safe for the Italians, who qualified for the competition via the Intertoto Cup and have not reached the semifinals of a European tournament since 1968.

Midfielder Giancarlo Marocchi squeezed between two Lyon defenders, turned and squared the ball for Signori to drill a low first time shot into the bottom corner of Coupet's net.

Signori, who had returned from suspension for the match, then turned provider five minutes later to set up midfielder Jonatan Binotto for Bologna's third goal.

Binotto knocked a short square pass to the former Lazio forward and sped down the Lyon right to collect a perfectly weighted return.

Binotto steadied himself in the penalty area before burying a low diagonal shot into the far corner of the Lyon goal.

Bologna's victory was an emphatic response to their shock 5-0 league defeat at lowly Piacenza on Saturday.

"This was another Bologna altogether," said Signori, who was substituted to a standing ovation three minutes from time. "We had exactly the right spirit for these European matches, which are really important to us."

But Signori warned that Lyon, who won at Paris St Germain last week, would mount a stiff challenge in the second leg in France on March 16.

"This certainly wasn't the Lyon we saw against PSG but we're aware of their potential," he said.

Signori's goals took his tally this season to 20, his count in this season's UEFA Cup to five and gave him sweet revenge for his last encounter with the French side.

That was in the 1995-96 UEFA Cup when he was playing for Lazio. Signori missed a penalty in the second leg as the Rome side crashed out on a 4-1 aggregate.

Lyon created several chances on Tuesday to give them hope for the second leg.

The best of them fell to Joseph Desire Job midway through the second half as Bologna threw caution to the wind in search of a fourth goal.

The young Cameroon striker forged his way into the area on the Lyon right but shot weakly when he should have passed to unmarked striking partner Alain Caveglia.

IOC'S GOSPER DEFENDS OLYMPIC CULTURE

SYDNEY (R) — International Olympic Committee (IOC) member Kevan Gosper on Wednesday rejected charges by a U.S. Olympic panel that the IOC had tolerated a "culture of improper gift-giving" by cities bidding for the Games.

"I take exception to that, I think it is wrong," Gosper, an IOC executive board member, told Reuters in an interview.

"We do have rules and guidelines in place, we do have protocols in place. The rules relating to bidding have been tightened substantially, year after year," he said.

But Gosper, seen by many as a possible successor to long-standing IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch, also said the IOC needed to be reformed and suggested all its 111 members stand for re-election every four years.

Gosper said the IOC was not a corporation with a structure that supervised members, but relied on the "good judgment and integrity" of IOC members to obey the rules.

"You do rely very much on the individual," he said. "There is a greater similarity with a club environment, a sporting club, a social club, than there is with a corporate organization."

But Gosper added there had obviously been "errors of judgment" by individual IOC members.

Four IOC members have been forced to resign and five others face expulsion in the IOC corruption scandal, which was sparked by bribery allegations in the awarding of the 2002 Winter Games to Salt Lake City in the United States.

Gosper's friend and fellow Australian IOC delegate Phil Coles has been forced to explain allegations of excessive hospitality by Salt Lake City.

Coles' Olympic future hangs in the balance until the IOC delivers its report later this month, but Gosper said he believed Coles would be cleared.

The full membership of the IOC is expected to expel or clear those allegedly involved in the scandal when it meets in a two-day special session in Lausanne on March 17 and 18.

The U.S. Olympic Committee panel headed by former U.S. Senator George Mitchell on Monday said: "The IOC must be reformed. For too long, it has tolerated the culture of improper gift giving, which affected every city bidding for the Olympic Games".

The panel recommended the IOC become more open and accountable with its structure, finances and membership.

Gosper said the IOC had been seriously damaged by the bribery scandal, but believed it would recover. But he agreed with the U.S. report that the IOC needed reform, citing membership rules.

Once delegates are accepted into the IOC they are members until they turn 80. Only the president and executive board members must stand for re-election every four years.

"I think there is a case for reviewing that to see whether or not you appoint people for a more specific period and have them stand for membership again," Gosper said.

"The senior people, members of the executive board and president, have to stand for those posts every four years, so I don't see why that shouldn't be applied to members themselves."

An Australian newspaper on Wednesday reported fellow IOC vice-president Dick Pound saying Samaranch, 78, may quit in 2000.

But Gosper said he fully supported Samaranch fulfilling his tenure until 2001. Samaranch has been head of the IOC for almost two decades.

"I want him to remain as president because I think he has a responsibility to all of us to turn our position around and recover our reputation and to introduce whatever reforms are appropriate in today's world," Gosper said.

BLAZERS TOP JAZZ IN DOUBLE OVERTIME

PORTLAND (R) — The Portland Trail Blazers, overlooked as title contenders by preseason handicappers, made a statement on Tuesday.

Rasheed Wallace scored 22 points off the bench, including two foul shots with 17 seconds left in double overtime, as the Trail Blazers beat the defending Western Conference champion Utah Jazz 102-100.

Wallace's foul shots in the second overtime period put the Blazers in front 101-100.

Tough Portland defense forced Utah's Greg Foster into a turnover with three seconds left and Damon Stoudamire made 1-of-2 free throws to make it a two-point game.

The Jazz got the ball back with a chance to force a third overtime, but Bryon Russell stumbled and never got off a shot.

Portland improved to 10-3, closing within a half-game of Utah for the NBA's best record.

Isaiah Rider's layup for a 90-90 tie with 46 seconds left in regulation forced overtime. The Jazz jumped ahead 94-90 in the first overtime on Jeff Hornacek's jumper. But the Blazers forced a second extra session on a Stoudamire jumper.

Rider finished with 18 points for the Blazers, who had seven players in double figures. Hornacek scored 23 points and Karl Malone had 20 for the Jazz.

"Normally Utah is the team to make the plays ... but tonight we did," said Rider.

HARDAWAY'S CRITIQUE OF OFFICIALS BRINGS HIM $7,500 FINE

NEW YORK (R) — Orlando Magic guard Penny Hardaway's criticism of game officials will cost him a load of pennies.

Hardaway, who was critical of the officiating crew of Bill Nunn, Sean Corbin and Rashan Michel after Sunday's loss at Miami, was fined $7,500 by the league Tuesday.

"I don't care about getting fined, I don't care about [illegible] cial) Rod Thorn calling. I'm just sick and tired of [illegible] stat sheet and I'm 3-for-14 or 3-for-16 and half [illegible] are people fouling me."

ATLETICO DOWNS ROMA 2-1 BUT DI BIAGIO KEEPS HOPES ALIVE FOR ITALIANS

MADRID, Spain (AP) — A stunning free-kick goal from 32 yards out by Luigi di Biagio was not enough to save AS Roma from a 2-1 defeat against Atletico de Madrid on Tuesday but it did keep alive the team's hopes of staying in the UEFA cup.

With goals by Jose Mari Romero and Roberto Fresnedosa, Atletico was well in control and on the road to a handsome quarterfinal, first-leg victory when Di Biagio trotted up to take the free in the 76th minute.

But with a shot that silenced the some 50,000 spectators at the Vicente Calderon stadium, the crewcut Italian thundered the ball over a packed defense area and into the top right-hand corner with keeper Paco Molina stretching to get a finger to it.

The goal could prove vital in the second-leg game when Roma plays on home ground in two week's time.

Twenty-year-old Jose Mari had slotted Atletico into the lead in the 14th minute when he headed in a cross sent in from the far left corner area by Italian teammate Michele Serena.

Atletico, which had the edge on Roma throughout, came close to making it 2-0 in the dying seconds of the first half when Jose Mari received another pass into the area from Serena on the left flank and fired the ball through a packed defense only to see it crash off the right post.

But the second goal came soon afterward, two minutes into the second half, when Roberto connected with a deep pass down the right wing and wheedled his way into the box, dummied the ball past French defender Vincent Candela and then steadied himself to drill it high over the left shoulder of Roma 'keeper Antonio Chimenti.

Roma almost got its first moments later when captain Francesco Totti pummeled a shot in from the edge of the area but Molina fell rapidly to his knees to block it.

The result was a welcome breather for Atletico which is struggling at No. 12 in the 20-team Spanish Primera Division and last month fired Italian coach Arrigo Sacchi.

AP Photo

Atletico's Jose Mari (R) goes for the ball against AS Roma's Candela during early action in their UEFA Cup quarter final 1st leg game on Tuesday in Atletico's Vincente Calderon stadium.

PRINCE ALI HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

Photo By Osama Abu Ghosh

THE ARAB DAILY — President of the Jordanian Soccer Federation, Prince Ali, called on the press to support the team and committed to solving the team's financial problems.

At a press conference held at Basman Palace on Wednesday, the prince said that it is very important for the press to stand behind the players, specifically by reporting "only the truth."

The prince said he will stand by the federation, "not as someone in charge, but as a player," and will ask for financial support from both national and private companies.

He also said that his heart is with the players, as he too was a player before becoming the president of the federation

He added that he will hold press conferences in the future to discuss issues concerning the team and will hide nothing from the public.

As for his answers to questions from journalists, Prince Ali said "it is too early to invest in coaches and players from outside, instead, Jordan should make an investment in young Jordanian players' futures."

BLATTER SAYS BIENNIAL WORLD CUP COULD BEGIN IN 2009

ZURICH (R) — FIFA President Sepp Blatter said on Tuesday harmonizing the international soccer calendar could not be done before 2005, making 2009 the first year in which his plan to stage the World Cup every two years could be adopted.

"We want to have a master calendar, but it is possible only after 2004. Contracts have already been signed for competitions," Blatter told a news conference.

"We could start in 2005," Blatter said of the proposal to harmonize the soccer calendar.

He said it would not be possible to hold a World Cup in 2008 because the Olympic Games and the Confederations Cup would be held that year.

Blatter has already promised that, if his controversial two-year plan is enacted, the World Cup would not be held in the same year as the summer Olympic Games.

"Therefore 2009 would be the first opportunity to start...and this is a possibility. This is not only an idea, it has become a possibility if the master calendar is successful," Blatter said.

Last month European soccer's governing body, UEFA, forced Blatter to back down on his plan to stage the World Cup every two years, but neither side ruled out the possibility of realizing the plan in the longer term.

Blatter said the fact that the two-year idea was being discussed and that it resulted in the plan to push for a harmonized calendar was a plus for the game.

"Even if we only reach a coordinated calendar then it is a win for football," Blatter said.

He also reiterated his view that the World Cup host nation should be chosen on a rotating basis, making Africa and Oceania next in line for the competition.

PAYTON'S CONDITION 'HAS STABILIZED'

CHICAGO (AP) — The Hall of Fame running back, the National Football League's all-time leading rusher, had been experiencing increased fatigue and nausea at mealtime until last week when his condition "leveled off," said Ginny Quirk, vice president of Walter Payton Enterprises Inc.

"It has stabilized, the doctors gave us official word of that Thursday," she said. She said Payton continues to live in his South Barrington home and has had less trouble sleeping lately.

Payton is suffering from a rare liver disease and needs a transplant. A number of friends have offered their planes to fly him to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota on an emergency basis when a liver is available.

Art & Culture

PIONEERS OF JORDAN: REMEMBERING BUILDER OF GREAT MONUMENTS IN JORDAN AND THE ARAB WORLD

Builder of Hashemite palaces and mausoleums, of mosques and churches, grand villas, banks and office-buildings, Diran's creations have become, time and again, landmarks of our Jordanian architectural heritage.

Two years after the passing away of this great builder, we bring back memories of architect Diran Voskerlichian, who was a pioneer in his field and an avid defender of all that is austere, straight and simple, not forgetting symmetrical.

Diran, as he was known, was born in Erzurum, Turkey, in 1914. He was the son of the first photographer who set up a studio in Erzurum in 1912. He was one year old when the massacre of Armenians took place. Fleeing the devastation, his father was killed. Since Diran was in his father's arms, he received a blow in his leg and bore the scar for the rest of his life. His mother returned to the scene, and saved him and fled with him to Deir El Zor, then Aleppo and Damascus.

In 1934 he arrived in Jerusalem and stayed there till the end of World War II. In 1943, he got married to Anahid, daughter of the renowned Armenian writer Hagop Oshagan.

Diran sought an education in France where he joined the 'Institut d'Urbanisme and later the Ecole des Beaux Arts, in Paris 1945-50.

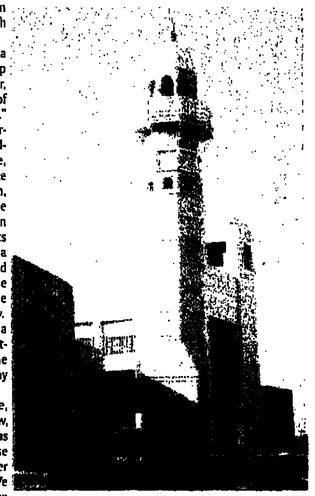
Fleeing the Arab Israeli war in 1948, the couple settled in Lebanon for a while, and returned to Jordan in 1950. Diran worked with architect Abu Suwwan to build one of his first monumental buildings, the Zahran Palace , residence of the Queen Mother, Zein El Sharif, standing on the main axis between the 3rd and 4th circle in Jebel Amman.

In 1953, Diran opened a small office in partnership with Abdul Rahman Bitar, which he called "Office of Architectural Studies." Among his many masterpieces that seem to be landmarks of Jordanian heritage, we find: The Hummar Palace of His Majesty King Hussein, the Ministry of Defence, the Memorial of the Unknown Soldier, behind the Sports City, the attractive Villa Mango of the 1st circle, end of Rainbow street, and the Villa Sabella , on the 5th circle, to mention a few.

"He was a man with a mind of his own," commented his wife Anahid as she showed pictures of his many achievements. "

He was very perceptive, he registered all that he saw, he collected photographs and books. He had no sense of possession. He never cared to own anything. We only got a house of our own fifteen years ago. He was quite a timid man, like a bird flying without having a place of his own. He cared for all mankind, in a sort of detached way. He did not have strong opinions about anything. He was an artist and had a terrific sense of humour."

About his favourite artistic style she said "He liked simple lines. He was cautious, he wanted nothing shocking. Simple lines do not tire the eyes."



About the way he handled his clientele she said "He visited each client in his home, saw their priorities, and studied the persons who were going to live in the buildings he was going to design. But he did not make concessions, he had to be totally convinced. In the Islamic Bank, Shmeisani, the client wanted to change the design to incorporate arches, Diran refused, and the monumental building now stands, a paragon of lightness and purity of line."

In the Arab Bank, downtown Amman, a Swiss architect was to design the door. He chose a glass door. Diran, more knowledgeable about the psychology of the people said "It is not possible for an Arab mind to accept a glass door for a bank. It should be made of metal or wood." One can still admire the monumental door of the Arab Bank that has also become a landmark in the architecture of Jordan.

Diran built a University in Saudi Arabia, where formalism reigned. He chose simple lines, and sought ultimate symmetry. He had the whole structure painted white, turning it into a palace of harmony.

"It was not his intelligence that made him create this harmony," commented his wife, "it was his artistic fluidity." Near the University, Diran built a mosque. His mosques always bear strict geometrical shapes, alleviated by perfect proportions, they give a sense of calm grandeur, purity and finesse.

Diran designed and built the Armenian Church of Jebel al Ashrafiyeh, with the adjoining school and two clubs. He offered this for free to the Armenian community in Amman. It allowed him to put into solid form the identity of an Armenian builder in the Diaspora.

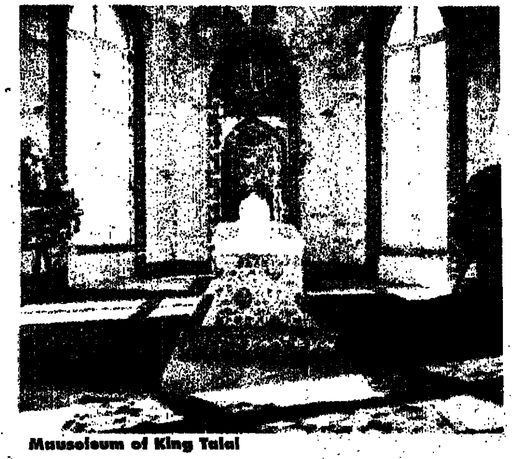
One of the most interesting commissions that Diran received was the restoration of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.

In 1955, C. T. Wolley, M.I.C.E., the inspector of the structure of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, met with the Tripartite Commission of experts appointed by the Religious Communities in charge of the Church. Their aim was the conservation of the church by strengthening defective parts and the embellishment of some others. Wolley met with HE the Mutassaref of the Jerusalem District and received the following statement. "The Governor of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has decided that action must be taken to repair the Church and that the Government would itself assume responsibility for the execution of the necessary works." Religious communities were invited to put forward the views of their experts regarding the necessary works. They needed to work on the Rotunda columns, the main facing of the Aedicule, the South Transept and the Katholikon Dome. They had to preserve the outer appearance but strengthen the weak parts.

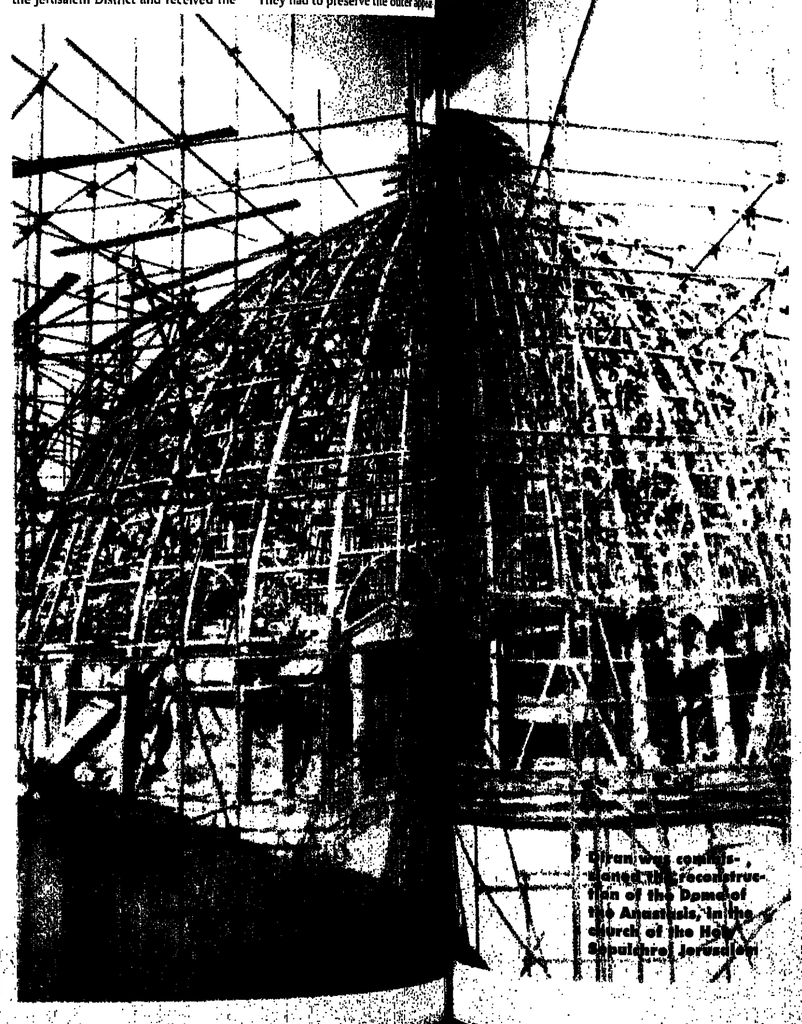
Diran was commissioned the Dome of the Anastasis. While he worked on the structure, he brought in Massimo Lippi, teacher of Decoration at the Academy of Belle Arti of Carrara to design the fresco that was supposed to cover the inside of the Dome. Lippi's colourful paintings were stylised, turning classical iconography into dynamic and almost abstraction. These were deemed too modern by the Christian Community in Jerusalem and were refused.

In his personal choice of such a 'modern' creator, Diran proved his own ability to be avant-garde, and that, in spite of his timid nature and the simplicity and symmetry of his works, he was a true artist and a thoroughly modern man.

by NELLY LAMA
Art & Culture Editor



Mausoleum of King Talal



Diran was commissioned the reconstruction of the Dome of the Anastasis, in the church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem

Art & Culture

Did You Know ?

Did you know that a treasure that compares to that of Tutankhamen was discovered in Tanis, situated in the Egyptian Delta, but the discovery was never publicised?

The treasure was unearthed by archaeologist Pierre Montet in the nineteen thirties and fourties. He uncovered three royal tombs that had been left untouched for 3000 years. They belonged to obscure Pharaohs of the Third Intermediate Period after the mighty conquerors Tuthmosis III and Ramses II.

The tombs belonged to Pharaoh Psusennes I (1036-989 BC) and Chechonq II coregent, (890 BC) who was of Lybian origin. Chechonq II was mentioned in the book of Chronicles in the Bible as the Pharaoh who conquered Jerusalem and pillaged the Temple of Solomon, its gold, and probably the Ark of the Covenant with its angels made of solid gold.

The third tomb belonged to Amonemope (989-981 BC)

The lack of media coverage of this great discovery was due to its coinciding with the Second World War. The French archaeological mission left Tanis the day of the appeal of General de Gaulle in London, the third of may, 1940. They had to leave Egyp and the site was robbed during their absence.

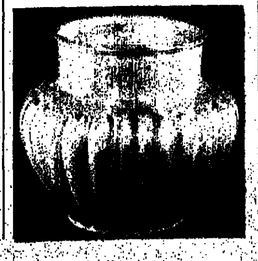
They returned in 1945 and uncovered the tomb of Oundebaounded, chief archer of Psusennes I.

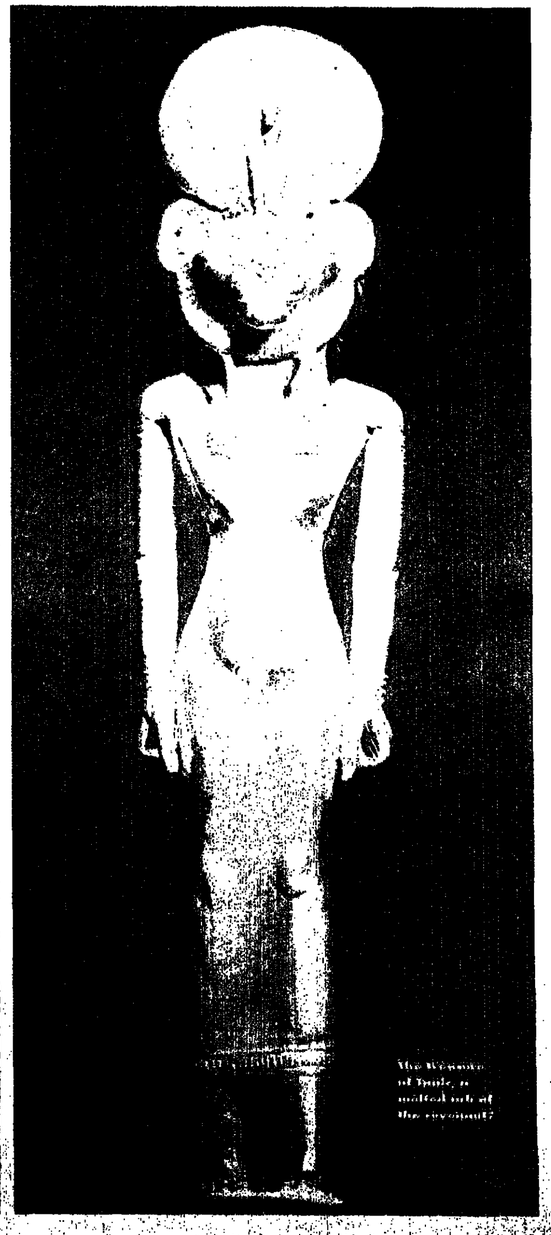
The Egyptian authorities now required that the Cairo Museum should lock all its treasures up in a safe.

During the Egyptian revolt against King Farouk, the French mission had to leave Egypt once more and Montet never enjoyed the fame of Howard Carter and Lord Carnavon.

After WW II, Europe was ready for reconstruction and no one had time to deal with archaeological discoveries in the Middle East.

Fortunately the lost treasures were slowly recuperated and were housed in a room in the Cairo Museum: gold masks, pectorals, bracelets and rings, gold vessels used for rituals, figurines etc.; all bear witness to exceptional craftsmanship. The treasures were put away and forgotten for forty years, until France finally brought them into the limelight, and exhibited them in French museums. The materpieces of Tanis have been travelling around the world ever since.





The treasures of Tanis, is unlikely only of the [illegible]?

HOROSCOPES

CAMERON DIAZ MATT DAMON BEN STILLER

ARIES
(March 21-April 19):
THURSDAY
You'll come up with something today that is quickly embraced by those who know how to make things come to fruition. Trust them!
FRIDAY
It's unlikely that you'll be directly affected by an unexpected arrival today, but you're sure to feel unusual influences in an indirect way.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20):
THURSDAY
You may have to spend more money today than expected, but don't be irresponsible in any way. Keep any eye on your cash flow!
FRIDAY
It will be important for you to show your support for a friend or loved one in the most apparent means possible. Don't be timid!

GEMINI
(May 21-June 21):
THURSDAY
Someone in charge is likely to recognize what you have to offer, and allow you free rein to do what you know how to do. Enjoy this chance!
FRIDAY
Do what you can to keep your opinions to yourself until you are asked to share them. No one will appreciate unsolicited advice or criticism.

CANCER
(June 22-July 23):
THURSDAY
You'll enjoy a bit of notoriety today thanks to something you did a while ago which is only now attracting attention.
FRIDAY
You're likely to enjoy something of a lead today when it comes to a competition, but don't assume this will last. It's no time to rest!

LEO
(July 24-Aug. 22)
THURSDAY
You need to work on expressing yourself more clearly and honestly. There are those who really do want to hear what you have to say, so go ahead and say it!
FRIDAY
You may want to turn to someone who has been in your shoes before to get some counsel regarding an important and difficult decision.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):
THURSDAY
The "same old thing" isn't likely to keep you interested for very long today. You're likely to roam in search of greener pastures.
FRIDAY
This is not a good day to take things too lightly. There are a few serious issues to contend with before the day is out, so take them on individually.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 23):
THURSDAY
There is added pressure today when it comes to an otherwise routine endeavor, and someone may be unwilling to admit you can do it.
FRIDAY
You may have trouble navigating a tricky emotional patch today, partly because unusual influences refuse to let up at this time.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
THURSDAY
You can still provide yourself with everything you need without spending too much or endangering a project that depends on cash reserves.
FRIDAY
A friend is sure to come through with a timely piece of advice, and even one of your enemies will see fit to offer a certain amount of help.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov.22-Dec. 21):
THURSDAY
Take care that you don't wander into dangerous territory unprepared today. You may be quite accident-prone, and you can't afford an injury.
FRIDAY
You will want to use all the information at your disposal today, but be sure that you're not taking undue advantage of others.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):
THURSDAY
Your beliefs may be challenged today not only by someone who is on the opposing team, but by certain unexpected developments.
FRIDAY
Trust that your timing will be impeccable, and that your dramatic sense is unfailing today. When it comes to making an entrance, you're top dog!

AQUARIUS
(Jan 20-Feb. 18):
THURSDAY
You mustn't ignore details today. Keep yourself on an even keel, and focus on those things that might otherwise get lost in the shuffle.
FRIDAY
Despite the need for teamwork and cooperation today, there are a few things that you'll have to tackle entirely on your own.

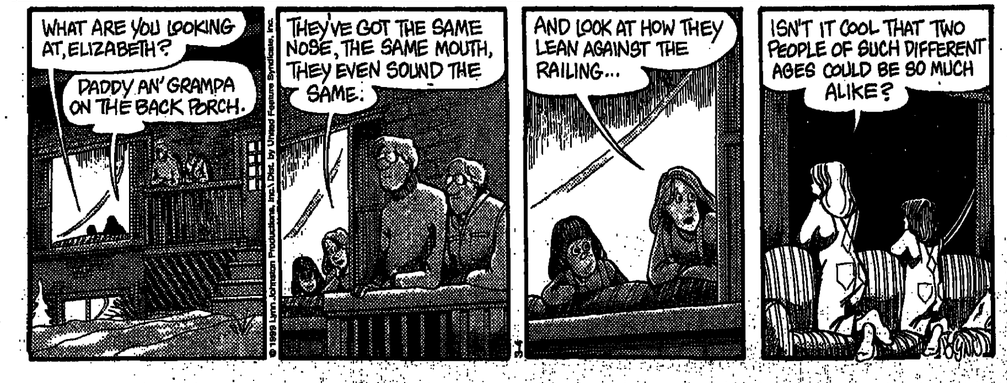
PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20):
THURSDAY
You must be ready and willing to do what is necessary to prepare yourself for the unexpected today, though you will be able to anticipate certain events.
FRIDAY
You must be ready to deal with a sudden change of plans today. You must also be willing to put your foot down if your rights are violated.

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY
3:30/6:30/8:30/10:30
GALLERIA 1

MEG — BY GREG CURFMAN

DR. DOLITTLE
6:30/8:30/10:45
GALLERIA 2

MULAN
THUR.&FRI.3:00 5:00
GALLERIA 2
GALLERIA
PHONE
5934793



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T1	S1	T1	T1	X8	E1	E1	Triple Word Score — RACK 1
R1	D2	C3	N1	E1	U1	U1	RACK 2
A1	E1	I1	F4	N1	L1	G2	1st Letter Double — RACK 3
T1	S1	I1	O1	S1	M3	I1	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 140-150

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

3-4-99

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SCRABBLE® BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S GAME

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S1	I1	G2	N1	A1	L1		RACK 1 = 7
C3	O1	N1	F4	L1	U1	X8	RACK 2 = 77
E1	X8	E1	G2	E1	T1	E1	RACK 3 = 80
L1	O1	Y4	A1	L1	T1	Y4	RACK 4 = 63

PAR SCORE 145-155 JUDD'S TOTAL 227

3-4-99

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T1	A1	E1	A1	L1	D2	S1	RACK 1
R1	D2	D2	Y4	I1	H4	O1	Triple Word Score — RACK 2
D2	H4	N1	G2	S1	I1	I1	Double Word Score — RACK 3
R1	T1	N1	E1	I1	I1	F4	Triple Word Score — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 160-170

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

3-4-99

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WEEKEND PUZZLER

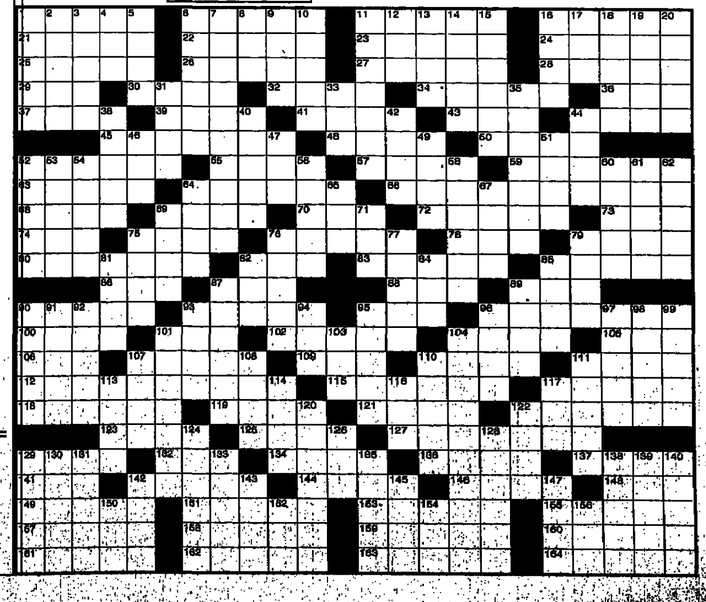
ACROSS

1 Tract of wet land
6 Exchanges
11 Angry
16 Hair of the head
21 Degrade
22 Lawful
23 Terre —, Indiana
24 Of hearing
25 Delaware's capital
26 Unaccompanied
27 Bury
28 Hang in folds
29 Sweet fruity drink
30 Toreador's foe
32 Microorganism
34 Kind of cheese
36 Turf
37 Dissolve
39 London or New York district
41 Type
43 Ocean
44 Makes inquiry
45 Constituent part
48 Traffic noise
50 Uppity one
52 Scared
55 Birthright seller
57 Linear measure
59 Had reveries
63 Grain for grinding
64 Abundantly
66 Gridiron player
68 Wander
69 Two performers
70 Make lace
72 Wall painting
73 Bravo!
74 Female sheep
75 Pet in a cage
76 Evil spirit
78 Swamp's cousin
79 Submissive
80 Twist together
82 Flivver
83 Give in
85 Biblical leader of the Jews
86 Cakes and —
87 Demand payment from
88 Exclaim
89 Actor Kilmer
90 Lively
93 Actress Hayes
95 Triumphant cry
96 Newspaper
100 Reckless
101 Bon — (witticism)
102 Sifter
104 A cheese
105 Legal matter
106 One — — time
107 Escapade
109 Luau fare
110 Thug
111 One of the Simpsons
112 Fiendish
115 Yellowish, as skin
117 Semblance
118 — Security
119 Row
121 Secluded place
122 Fishes with a hook
123 Envelope part
125 Close
127 Sleepless
129 Palmer's game
132 GOP member: abbr.
134 — of the moment
136 Salty drop
137 Repeat
141 Chimpanzee
142 Notions
144 Word in recipes
146 School jacket
148 Decompose
149 Shrimp
151 Andes animal
153 Jelly fruit
155 Open
157 Facilitates
158 Weird
159 Sea duck
160 En — (in a body)
161 White sale item
162 Training exercise
163 Portals
164 Come in!

DOWN

1 "—, I'm Adam"
2 Dwelling
3 "Bolero" composer
4 Dir. letters
5 Flavoring plant
6 Skiing course
7 In the money: hyph. wd.
8 In the past
9 Pain
10 Glossy
11 Smokestack
12 Tried for office
13 Ins and —
14 Cooks in water
15 Succession
16 Boys
17 "— Town"
18 Stupid
19 Silk cotton
20 Toboggans
31 Not new
33 Curved bone
35 Clobber unfairly
38 Tantalize
40 Beginning
42 Unhearing
44 Cain's victim
46 Illuminated
47 Get brown in the sun
49 School dance
51 Spoken
52 See eye-to-eye
53 Unhappy look
54 Bolt
56 Sheer
58 To twice the degree
60 Bitter drug
61 Confused fight
62 Journeys
64 Unmixed
65 Sweet potato
67 Walked on
69 Eat
71 Bauble
75 Cheat
76 Copenhagen natives
77 Recess
79 Burrowing animal
81 Cleanse
82 — -de-sac
84 Notable time
85 Labyrinth
87 Discover
89 Fruitless
90 Headless nails
91 Mathematical proportion
92 Newton or Azimov
93 Western Indian
94 Bite
95 Of birds
96 Get bigger
97 Path
98 Not at all wordy
99 — Park, Colorado
101 Wild duck
103 Dawn goddess
104 Office worker
107 Ember
108 Weather outlook
110 Take malicious delight
111 Horn
113 Hit
114 Bruce and Spike
116 Not loud
117 Wildebeest
120 One of the archangels
122 Frizzy hairdo
124 Removed the rind
126 Regret
128 Diners
129 Stares open-mouthed
130 Winfrey of TV
131 Landlord's offering
133 More wan
135 Stormed
138 Wave top
139 Draft animal
140 Weasel's cousin
142 Part of M.I.T.
143 Indian garment
145 Threesome
147 City in Alaska
150 Tiny
152 One-thousandth of an inch
154 Fuss
156 Commercial vehicle

SEE SOLUTION NEXT WEEKEND



CNBC

Thursday
07:00 Market Watch
07:30 Europe Today
10:00 Market Watch
15:00 US CNBC Squawk Box
17:00 US Market Watch
19:00 Europe Tonight
20:00 US Power Lunch
21:00 US Street Signs
23:00 US Market Wrap
00:00 Europe Tonight(r)
01:30 NBC Nightly News
02:00 CNBC Asia Squawk Box
03:30 US Market Wrap(r)
04:00 Trading Day
06:00 US Business Centre
06:30 Lunch Money
FRIDAY
07:00 Market Watch
07:30 Europe Today
10:00 Market Watch
15:00 US CNBC Squawk Box
17:00 US Market Watch
19:00 Europe Tonight
20:00 US Power Lunch
21:00 US Street Signs
23:00 US Market Wrap
00:00 Europe Tonight(r)
01:30 NBC Nightly News
02:00 Europe This Week
03:00 Working With The Euro
03:30 US Street Signs(r)
05:30 US Market Wrap(r)
06:00 US Business Centre

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL

00:00 Combat Cameramen
00:30 People & Places: Cameramen Who Dared
01:00 Today
02:00 NBC Nightly New
02:30 Dateline NBC
03:30 The Chamberlain River
04:00 An African Love Story
05:00 Giraffe Of Etosha
06:00 Wild: Ivory Pigs
07:00 The chamberlain River, Australia
07:30 The Howqua Australia
08:00 Ocean Worlds: Tale Of The Crayfish
09:00 Mama Tina
10:00 The Okavango
11:00 Reptilian Encounters: King Cobra
12:00 Mixed Strand: Coming Of Age With Elephants
13:00 Four Seasons Of The Stag
14:00 Dragons Of The Galapagos
15:00 Elephant Island
16:30 World Of Islands
16:00 Ocean Worlds: The Scientist, The Shark & The Showmen
16:30 Ocean Worlds: Shark Feeders
17:00 Flight Across The World
18:00 Dragons Of The Galapagos
19:00 Elephant Island
19:30 World Of Islands
20:00 The Scientist, The Shark & The Showmen
20:30 Ocean Worlds: Shark Feeders
21:00 Flight Across The World
22:00 Coming Of Age With Elephants
23:00 Solid Water, Liquid Rock
FRIDAY
00:00 Flight Across The World
01:00 Today
02:00 NBC Nightly News
02:30 MSNBC Time & Again
03:30 The D'urville River, Nz
04:00 Mixed Strand: Last Voyage Of Andrea Doria
05:00 Mojave Adventure
06:00 Wild: Harem Of The Ethiopian Baboons
07:00 Violent Earth: Storm Of The Century
08:00 Ocean Worlds: Giants Of Ningaloo
09:00 Flight Across The World
09:30 Nuba Of Sudan
10:00 Elephant Island
11:00 Reptilian Encounters: Dragons Of The Galapagos
12:00 Giraffe Of Etosha
13:00 Family Hour: Search For The Great Apes
14:00 Alligator!
15:00 Violent Earth: Avalanche!
16:30 Violent Earth: Earthquake
16:00 The Last Tannara
18:30 Ogasawara Island
17:00 People & Places: India Of Gods & Men:
Mahboub, The Journey Of A Fakir
18:00 Alligator!
19:00 Violent Earth: Avalanche!
19:30 Violent Earth: Earthquake
20:00 The Last Tannara
20:30 Ogasawara Island
21:00 People & Places: India Of Gods & Men:
Mahboub, The Journey Of A Fakir
22:00 Giraffe Of Etosha
23:00 Emperors Of Antarctica

EuroNews

07:00 News
11:15 Cinema
11:45 2000
12:15 Style
12:45 No Comment
13:15 Cult
13:45 International
14:15 Cinema
14:45 Globus
15:15 International
15:45 Europeans
16:15 Style
16:45 Visa
17:15 Cult
17:45 International
18:15 Cinema
18:45 Globus
19:15 Europeans
19:45 2000
20:15 News & Analysis
22:45 International
23:00 News & Analysis
23:45 Visa
00:00 News & Analysis
00:45 No Comment
01:00 News & Analysis
01:45 Europeans
02:15 Parlamento
02:45 Visa
FRIDAY
07:00 News
11:15 International
11:45 Globus
12:15 Europeans
12:45 No Comment
13:15 2000
13:45 Cult
14:15 Style
14:45 Cinema
15:15 International
15:45 Globus
16:15 Visa
16:45 Europeans
17:15 International
17:45 Prespectives
18:15 Style
18:45 2000
19:15 Perspectives
19:45 Visa
20:15 News & Analysis
22:45 Prespectives
23:00 News & Analysis
23:45 Cinema
00: 00 News & Analysis
01:45 Perspectives
02:15 International
02:45 Cult

DW

01:00 Journal-With Top Story
01:30 Germany: A Hundred Years
02:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
02:30 Europa Aktuell-Das Magazin Aus Br,ssel
03:00 Journal-With Top Story/ Journal-Con Tema Del Dia
03:30 Germany Today
04:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
04:30 Eine Orgel F,r Tokyo
05:00 Journal-With Top Story
05:30 Auto Motor Und Sport TV
06:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
06:30 Deutchland Heute
07:00 Journal-With Top Story
07:30 Germany: A Hundred Years
08:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
08:30 Europa Aktuell-Das Magazin Aus Br,ssel
09:00 Journal-With Top Story
09:30 Germany Today
10:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
10:30 Eine Orgel F,r Tokyo
11:00 Journal-With Top Story
11:30 Auto Motor Und Sport TV
12:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
12:30 Deutschland Heute
13:00 Journal-With Top Story
13:30 Germany: A Hundred Years
14:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
14:30 Europa Aktuell-Das Magazin Aus Br,ssel
15:00 Journal-With Top Story
15:30 Germany Today
16:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
16:30 Die ZDF Reportage
17:00 Journal-With Top Story
17:30 European Journal-The European Magazine
18:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
18:30 Deutschland Heute
19:00 Journal-With Top Story
19:30 All Aboard!
20:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
20:30 Made In Germany-Das Wirtschaftsmagazin
21:00 Journal-With Top Story
21:30 Germany Today
22:00 Journal-Con Tema Del Dia Journal-Mit Tagesthema
22:30 Die ZDF Reportage
23:00 Journal-With Top Story
23:30 Destination Germany
00:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
00:30 Deutschland Heute

TV5

07:00 Journal
TV5
07:15 Gourmandises
07:30 Telematin
09:00 TV5 Minutes et meteo
09:05 Journal de Radio-Canada
09:35 4 et Demi
10:00 TV5 Minutes
10:05 Claire Lamarche
11:00 TV5 Minutes
11:05 Reference
11:30 Espace Francophone
12:00 TV5 Minutes
12:05 Zig Zag CafÉ
12:30 Gourmandises
13:00 TV5 Minutes
13:05 Voila Paris
13:30 Journal de France 3
14:00 Envoye Special
16:00 Journal International TV5
16:15 Comment ca Va
17:15 Pyramide
17:45 Bus et Compagnie
18:30 TV5 Minutes
19:35 Jeu
19:00 Questions pour un Champion
19:30 Journal TV5
20:00 Voila Paris
20:27 Un Livre Un Jour
20:30 Journal de La TSR
21:00 Special Cinema
23:00 Journal de France Television
23:30 Special Cinema
01:25 Meteo Internationale
01:30 Journal de France 3
02:00 Journal de la RTBF
02:30 Le Cercle
20:30 Reiseland Deutschland
21:00 Journal-With Top Story
21:30 Germany Today
22:00 Journal-Con Tema Del Dia Journal-Mit Tagesthema
22:30 Europa Semanal
23:00 Journal-With Top Story
23:30 European Journal-The European Magazine
00:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
00:30 Deutschland Heute
FRIDAY
01:00 Journal-With Top Story
01:30 An Organ
02:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
02:30 Reiseland Deutschland
03:00 Journal-Con Tema Del Dia /Journal-With Top Story
03:30 Germany Today
04:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
04:30 Bitte Einsteigen...!
05:00 Journal-With Top Story
05:30 European Journal-The European Magazine
06:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
06:30 Deutchland Heute
07:00 Journal-With Top Story
07:30 An Organ
08:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
08:30 Reiseland Deutschland
09:00 Journal-With Top Story
09:30 Germany Today
10:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
10:30 Bitte Einsteigen...!
11:00 Journal-With Top Story
11:30 European Journal-The European Magazine
12:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
12:30 Deutschland Heute
13:00 Journal-With Top Story
13:30 An Organ
14:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
14:30 Reiseland Deutschland
15:00 Journal-With Top Story
15:30 Germany Today
16:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
16:30 Die ZDF Reportage
17:00 Journal-With Top Story
17:30 European Journal-The European Magazine
18:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
18:30 Deutschland Heute
19:00 Journal-With Top Story
19:30 An Organ
20:00 Journal-Mit Tagesthema
04:00 Alice
04:30 Musique Musiques
05:00 TV5 Minutes
05:05 4 et Demi
05:30 Pyramide
Friday
07:00 Journal TV5
07:15 Gourmandises
07:30 Telematin
09:00 TV5 Minutes et meteo
09:05 Journal de Radio-Canada
09:35 4 et Demi
10:00 TV5 Minutes
10:05 Le Point
11:00 TV5 Minutes
11:05 Mediterraneo
11:30 Portrait
11:50 Correspondance
12:00 TV5 Minutes
12:05 Zig Zag CafÉ
12:30 Gourmandises
13:00 TV5 Minutes
13:05 Voila Paris
13:30 Journal de France 3
14:00 Le Monde De TV5
15:00 Journal International TV5
16:15 Temps Present
17:15 Pyramide
17:45 Bus et Compagnie
18:30 TV5 Minutes
19:35 Jeu
19:00 Questions pour un Champion
19:30 Journal TV5
20:00 Voila Paris
20:27 Un Livre Un Jour
20:30 Journal de La TSR
21:00 Fort Boyard
22:30 Evasion
23:00 Journal de France Television
23:30 Divertissement
01:25 Meteo Internationale
01:30 Journal de France 3
02:00 Journal de la TSR
02:30 Musiques Au Coeur
04:00 Mediterraneo
04:30 Magellan
05:00 TV5 Minutes

EUROSPORT

09:30 Athletics
10:30 Biathlon
12:00 Luge
12:30 Sleddog
13:00 Football
14:00 Athletics
14:30 Snowboard
15:00 Biathlon
16:00 LIVE Biathlon: World Cup In Val Cartier, Canada
17:30 Nordic Skiing
18:00 LIVE Ski Jumping: World Cup In Kuopio, Finland
19:45 LIVE, Swimming: World Cup In Imperia, Italyy
21:30 Football
23:30 Football
01:30 Ski Jumping
02:30 Close
FRIDAY
09:30 LIVE, Athletics: World Indoor Championships In Maebashi, Japan
12:30 Athletics
13:00 LIVE, Alpine Skiing: World Cup In St-Moritz, Switzerland
14:30 Ski Jumping
15:00 LIVE, Snowboard: FIS World Cup In Kreischberg, Austria
16:00 LIVE, Biathlon: World Cup In Val Cartier, Canada
17:15 Alpine Skiing
18:00 LIVE, Cross-Country Skiing: World Cup In Lahti, Finland
19:30 Biathlon
20:30 Alpine Skiing
21:30 Figure Skating
23:00 Boxing
00:00 Athletics
01:00 Xtrem Sports
02:00 Snowboard
02:30 Close

BBC WORLD

02:00 BBC World News
02:30 World Living
03:00 BBC World News
03:30 Asia Today
03:45 World Business Report
04:00 BBC World News
04:30 Asia Today
04:45 World Business Report
05:00 BBC World News
05:30 Asia Today
05:45 World Business Report
06:00 BBC World News
06:30 USA Direct
07:00 BBC World News
07:30 World Focus
08:00 BBC World News
08:30 World Living
09:00 BBC World News
09:30 Hard Talk
10:00 BBC World News
10:30 World Focus
11:00 BBC World News
11:30 Hard Talk
12:00 BBC World News
12:30 World Living
13:00 The World Today
14:00 The World Today
14:30 Wild World
15:00 BBC World News
15:15 World Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 World Living
17:00 BBC World News
17:30 Hard Talk
18:00 BBC World News
18:30 Moneywise
19:00 BBC World News
19:30 World Living
20:00 The World Today
21:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk
22:00 BBC World News
22:30 World Focus
FRIDAY
02:00 BBC World News
02:30 World Living
03:00 BBC World News
03:30 Asia Today
03:45 World Business Report
04:00 BBC World News
04:30 Asia Today
04:45 World Business Report
05:00 BBC World News
05:30 Asia Today
05:45 World Business Report
06:00 BBC World News
06:30 USA Direct
07:00 BBC World News
07:30 World Focus
08:00 BBC World News
08:30 World Living
09:00 BBC World News
09:30 Hard Talk
10:00 BBC World News
10:30 World Focus
11:00 BBC World News
11:30 Hard Talk
12:00 BBC World News
12:30 World Living
13:00 The World Today
14:00 The World Today
14:30 Wild World
15:00 BBC World News
15:15 World Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 World Living
17:00 BBC World News
17:30 Hard Talk
18:00 BBC World News
18:30 Question Time India
19:30 World Living
20:00 The World Today
21:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk
22:00 BBC World News
22:30 World Focus
23:00 BBC World News

SHOWTIME / DISCOVERY CHANNEL

02.00 Great Mysteries And Myths
02.30 History's Turning Points
03:00 Extreme Machine
04:00 Discovery Profile Series
05:00 Go For It!
06:00 Ushuaia
07:00 The New Explorers
08:00 Travelers
09:00 Lonely Planet
10:00 Innitimate Escapes
10:30 Intimate Escapes
11:00 Eyewitness
11:30 Splat
12:00 Go For It!
13:00 The New Explorers
14:00 Travelers
15:00 Innitimate Escapes
15:30 Innitimate Escapes
16:00 Ushuaia
17:00 Lonely Planet
18:00 The Shark Files
19:00 Untamed Amazonia
20:00 Lonely Planet
21:00 Beyond 2000
21:30 Ultrasciance III
22:00 Discovery Profile Series
23:00 Go For It!
00:00 Lonely Planet
01:00 Untamed Amazonia
FRIDAY
02:00 Lonely Planet
03:00 Beyond 2000
03:30 Ultrasciance III
04:00 Discovery Profile Series
05:00 Go For It!
06:00 Ushuaia
07:00 The New Explorers
08:00 Travelers
09:00 Lonely Planet
10:00 Innitimate Escapes
10:30 Intimate Escapes
11:00 Eyewitness
11:30 Splat
12:00 Go For It!
13:00 Great Mysteries And Myths
13:30 History Turning Points
14:00 The Ultimate Guide
15:00 Eyewitness
15:30 Paleoworld
16:00 Wild Discovery
17:00 Going Wild
17:30 Two Worlds
18:00 Eyewitness
18:30 Paleoworld
19:00 Danger Zone
19:30 Medical Detectives
20:00 Challenge
21:00 Ushuaia
22:00 Wings
23:00 Go For It!
00:00 Lonely Planet
01:00 Danger Zone
01:20 Medical Detectives

MTV

02:00 The Grind
02:30 Night Videos
07:00 Kickstart
08:00 Top Selection
09:00 Kickstart
10:00 Non Stop Hits
13:00 MTV Data Videos
14:00 Non Stop Hits
17:00 Select MTV
19:00 US Top 20
20:00 So 90's
21:00 Top Selection
22:00 MTV Data Videos
23:00 Amour
00:00 MTV ID
01:00 Alternative Nation
FRIDAY
02:00 The Grind
03:30 Night Videos
07:00 Kickstart
08:00 Top Selection
09:00 Kickstart
10:00 Non Stop Hits
13:00 MTV Data Videos
14:00 Non Stop Hits
17:00 Select MTV
19:00 Dance Floor Chart
21:00 Top Selection
22:00 MTV Data Videos
23:00 Amour
00:00 MTV ID

CARTOON NETWORK

04:00 Winnie's House
04:30 Blues Clues
05:00 Mr Men
05:05 Mr Men
05:10 Mr Men
05:15 The Wombles
05:30 The Busy World Of Richard Scarry
06:00 Dr Seuss
06:30 Doug
07:00 Hey Arnold
07:30 Rocko's Modern Life
08:00 Rugrats
08:30 Rugrats
09:00 Angry Beavers
09:30 Real Monsters
10:00 Space Goofs
10:30 Kablam
11:00 The Adventures Of Pete & Pete
11:30 Cousin Skeeter
12:00 Saved By The Bell
12:30 Clarissa Explains It All
13:00 Doug
13:30 Hey Arnold
14:00 Angry Beavers
14:30 Kablam
15:00 Rugrats
15:30 Rugrats
16:00 Cousin Skeeter
16:30 Saved By The Bell
FRIDAY
04:00 Winnie's House
04:30 Blues Clues
05:00 Mr Men
05:05 Mr Men
05:10 Mr Men
05:15 The Wombles
05:30 The Busy World Of Richard Scarry
06:00 Dr Seuss
06:30 Doug
07:00 Hey Arnold
07:30 Rocko's Modern Life
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09:00 Angry Beavers
09:30 Real Monsters
10:00 Space Goofs
10:30 Kablam
11:00 The Adventures Of Pete & Pete
11:30 Cousin Skeeter
12:00 Saved By The Bell
12:30 Clarissa Explains It All
13:00 Doug
13:30 Hey Arnold
14:00 Angry Beavers
14:30 Kablam
15:00 Rugrats
15:30 Rugrats
16:00 Cousin Skeeter
16:30 Saved By The Bell

TNT

03:00 The Greatest
05:00 Super Mario Bros.
07:00 Soldier's Fortune
08:30 Educating Rita
10:30 Inside Hollywood
11:00 NEW: Born Free: A New Adventure
12:30 Emma
14:30 Explorers
16:30 The Disorderly Orderly
18:00 I'll Do Anything
20:00 BIG THURSDAY MOVIE
NEW: G.I. Jane
22:00 Inside Hollywood
22:30 The First Power
00:30 Jade
FRIDAY
02:00 American Gigolo
04:00 Educating Rita
06:00 Born Free: A New Adventure
07:30 Stepping Out
09:30 Paradise Road
11:00 NEW: Absence Of Malice
13:00 Inside Hollywood
13:30 Season Of Change
15:00 Shake, Rattle And Rock!
16:30 Falling In Love
18:30 Jury Duty
20:00 FRIDAY MEGA MOVIE
NEW: Black Sheep
21:30 Money Train
23:30 Senseless
01:00 Inside Hollywood
01:30 Dragstrip Girl

TNT

02:00 Star Trek-The Next Generation
03:00 Silk Stalking
04;00 Powerboat & Jetsport World 1998 Series
04:30 Pacific Blue
05:30 Acapulco Heat
06:30 The Premier Match
08:30 Inside Edition
09:00 Pacific Blue
10:00 Early Edition
11:00 Nightman
12:00 Air America
13:00 Cupid
14:00 Pacific Blue
15:00 The Net
16:00 Star Trek-The Next Generation
17:00 Early Edition
18:00 Trazan
18:30 Nightman
19:30 Air American
20:30 Fantasy Island
21:30 Silk Stalking
22:30 The Premier Match
00:30 Powerboat & Jetsport World 1998 Series
01:00 Nightman
FRIDAY
02:00 Star Trek-The Next Generation
03:00 Silk Stalking
04:00 Powerboat & Jetsport World 1998 Series
04:30 Pacific Blue
05:30 The Commish
06:30 The Premier Match
08:30 Trazan
09:00 Pacific Blue
10:00 Early Edition
11:00 Nightman
12:00 Air American
13:00 The Commish
14:00 Pacific Blue
15:00 Fantasy Island
16:00 Star Trek-The Next Generation
17:00 Early Edition
18:00 Premier League Preview
18:30 Nightman
19:30 Air American
20:30 Dark Skies
21:30 Silk Stalkings
22:30 The Premier Match
00:30 Powerboat & Jetsport World 1998 Series
01:00 Nightman

VH-1

Thursday
02:00 Mills 'N' Collins
03:00 Around And Around
04:00 VH1 Late Shift
06:00 Power Breakfast
10:00 Pop-Up Video
11:00 VH1 Upbeat
14:00 Ten Of The Best: Chris Eubank
15:00 Greatest Hits of...: Greatest Hits Of
15;18 Pop-Up Video
16:00 Jukebox
18:00 Behind The Music
19:00 Five @ Five
19:18 Pop-Up Video
20:00 Happy Hour With Clare Grogan
21:00 VH1 Hits
23:00 Bob Mill's Big 80's
00:00 Blondie Uncut
01:00 American Classic
FRIDAY
02:00 Mills 'N' Collins
03:00 VH1 Spice
04:00 VH1 Late Shift
08:00 Power Breakfast
10:00 Pop-Up Video
11:00 VH1 Upbeat
14:00 Ten Of The Best: David Soul
15:00 Premiere: Greatest Hits of...: Cher
15:18 Pop-Up Video
16:00 Jukebox
18:18 VH1 To 1: The Bee Gees
19:00 Five @ Five
19:18 Pop-Up Video
20:00 Something For The Weekend
21:00 Greatest Hits Of...: The Movie
21:18 Talk Music
22:00 Pop-Up Video
22:10 VH1 Party Hits
23:00 Premiere: Ten Of The Best: Caprice

AMC

02:30 Mr. And Mrs. Smith
03:25 Married With Children
03:50 Homicide: Life On The Streets
04:40 Highlander The Series
05:30 Police Academy
06:20 Sunset Beach
07:10 Phenom
07:35 The Powers That Be
08:00 Sunday Dinner
08:25 Home Fires
09:40 Dweebs
09:15 Thea
09:40 Street Justice
10:30 Local Heroes
10:55 Highlander: The Series
11:45 Police Academy
12:35 Sunset Beach
13:25 Phenom
14:05 The Powers That Be
14:15 Sunday Dinner
14:40 Home Fires
15:05 Dweeds
15:30 Thea
15:55 Street Justice
16:45 Local Heroes
17:10 High Society
17:35 Hanging With Mr Cooper
18:00 Love Boat: The Next Wave
19:00 Friends
19:30 Drew Carey
20:00 Seinfeld
20:30 Just Shoot Me
21:00 ER
22:00 Mr. And Mrs. Smith
23:00 The Client
00:00 Mad About You
00:25 Cosby
00:50 Party Of Five
01:40 Bella Mafia
Friday
02:30 Bella Mafia
03:25 Married With Children
03:50 Homicide: Life On The Streets
04:40 Early Edition
05:30 Anyday Now
06:20 Sunset Beach
07:10 Phenom
07:35 Powers That Be
08:00 Mighty Jungle
08:25 Suger & Spice
08:50 Dweebs
09:05 Thea
09:40 Street Justice
10:30 Common Law
10:55 Early Edition
11:45 Anyday Now
12:35 Sunset Beach
13:25 Phenom
14:05 The Powers That Be
14;15 Mighty Jungle
14:40 Suger & Spice
15:05 Dweeds
15:30 Thea
15:55 Street Justice
16:45 Common Justice
17:10 Forever Knight
18:00 The Client
19:00 Mad About You
19:30 Cosby
20:00 Party Of Five
21:00 Beverly Hills 90210
22:00 (TBC)
23:00 Dr Quinn Medicine Woman
00:00 Caroline In The City
00:25 Murphy Brown
00:50 Anyday Now
01:40 Veronica's Closet
02:05 Suddenly Susan

MOVIES

Thursday
04:00 My Father The Hero
06:00 Evil Dead II
08:00 Lone Star
10:00 Master Harold And The Boys
12:00 Shoot To Kill
14:00 A Dry White Season
16:00 Robocop III
18:00 Hard Eight
20:00 Fatal Instinct
22:00 Good Morning Vietnam
00:00 Defenseless
02:00 Fatal Instinct
FRIDAY
04:00 Defenseless
06:00 Good Morning Vietnam
08:00 A Dry White Season
10:00 Robocop III
12:00 Hard Eight
14:00 Lean On Me
16:00 All Goga Go To Heaven
18:00 Ambition
20:00 Dead Poet's Society
22:00 Citizen X
00:00 Pretty Woman
02:00 Ambition

HOLLYWOOD

04:30 Fashion Emergency
05:00 El FYE
05:30 El FYE
06:00 Regis And Kathy Lee(r)
07:00 El Behind The Velvet Rope
07:30 El Dining With Style
08:00 El Coming Attractions
08:30 Sally Jessy Raphael
09:30 El Uncut
10:00 El News Weekend
11:00 El Q & E
11:30 Jeopardy
12:00 Wheel Of Fortune
12:30 Hollywood Squares
13:00 Regis & Kathy Lee
14:00 El Coming Attractions
14:30 El FYE
15:00 El Uncut
15:30 The View
16:30 El Fashion Emergency
17:00 El Celebrity Profiles
18:00 The Grammy Awards, 1999
21:00 El News Weekend(r)
22:00 Fashion Emergency(r)
22:30 Late Show With David Letterman
23:30 The Best Of El Mysteries & Scandals
00:00 South Beach Model Search
00:30 South Beach Model Search
01:00 The View(r)
FRIDAY
04:30 Fashion Emergency
05:00 El FYE
05:30 Judge Judy
06:00 Regis And Kathy Lee(r)
07:00 Model TV
07:30 El Homes With Style
08:00 El Coming Attractions
08:30 Sally Jessy Raphael
09:30 El Uncut
10:00 El Gossip Week-End
11:00 El Q & E
11:30 Jeopardy
12:00 Wheel Of Fortune
12:30 Hollywood Squares
13:00 Regis & Kathy Lee
14:00 El Behind The Scenes
14:30 El Extreme Close Up
15:00 El Cut To The Chase(r)
15:30 The View
16:30 Arts & Minds
17:00 El In Focus
18:00 Inside The Actor's Studio": Eli Wallach + Anne Jackson
19:00 Judge Judy
19:30 Judge Judy
20:00 El Gossip Week-End(r)
21:00 Roseanne Meets Whoopi Golberg
21:00 Arts & Minds(r)
22:30 Late Show With David Letterman
23:30 The Best Of El Mysteries & Scandals
00:00 El Wild On
01:00 The View(r)

CINEMA CITY

01:00 Heaven's Gate
03:00 Stardust Memories
05:00 The Great Santini
07:00 Arsenic And Old Lace
09:00 Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?
13:00 The Defiant Ones
15:00 Rocky II
17:00 The Apartment
19:00 Annie Hall
21:00 Dillinger
23:00 The Russians Are Coming
FRIDAY
01:00 Dillinger
03:00 Annie Hall
05:00 The Russians Are Coming
07:00 Rocky II
09:00 The Apartment
11:00 Moby Dick
13:00 The Prisoner Of Second Avenue
15:00 The Fortune Cookie
17:00 Jezebel
19:00 Night Shift
21:00 The French Lieutenant's Woman

FUTURE TELEVISION

12:00 Home Video
13:15 Cartoons
14:00 Movie Magic
14:30 Video Clips
15:30 Family Movie
18:30 Great Romances
20:00 News
20:30 Bravo
FRIDAY
10:20 Agenda Cultural
11:15 Home Video
15:30 Adrenaline
16:30 Disney Club
18:00 My So Called Life
18:00 Stade
20:30 Funniest Home Video

LBC

06:00 Arabic Vedio-Clip
07:00 Captain Majed
08:30 Budgie
14:00 Flash News/Live
15:15 Gillette Sports Special
16:15 Pino
19:00 L.A. Heat
20:00 News
22:00 Miss USA 99
FRIDAY
06:00 Arabic Video-Clip
14:00 Flash News/Live
16:15 Pino
19:30 Tele-Auto
20:00 News
01:00 Sports

Thursday & Friday

07:30 Local News
07:35 Perspectives
08:00 Link with Ch.1 for the News in Arabic
08:30 Program about His Majesty Late King Hussein
09:00 Islamic History In Jordan
10:00 News at Ten
10:15 National Geographic
11:00 Link with Ch.1 for The News in Arabic

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

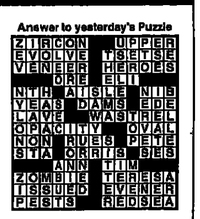
ACROSS

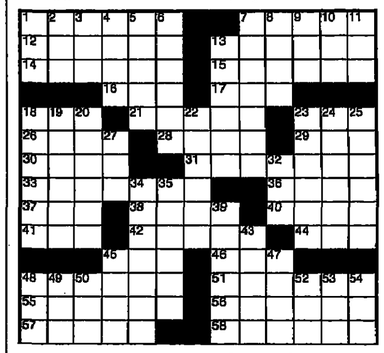
1 Rostrum
7 — — grabs
12 Singer Don or Phil
13 False: prefix
14 Al of "Scarface"
15 Beat in a race
16 Weaken
17 Dance step
18 Firmament
21 Competitor
23 Enjoy Vail
26 Foot tips
28 Poet Sandburg
29 Seeing red
30 Pronto: abbr.
31 Substance used in rubber-making
33 Word groups
36 Lohengrin's bride
37 Actor Carlou
38 Railway car
40 Pancake-like
41 Hesitant sounds
42 Parts in a play
44 Compass pt.
45 Among
46 Total
48 Hair ointment
51 Lifted with effort
55 Let customers in
56 More nervous
57 Roof edges
58 Espy

DOWN

1 Cheer-leader's asset
2 Eggs, to Cato
3 Xmas mo.
4 Goddess of the rainbow
5 Of an arm bone
6 Like Mr. Magoo
7 As a rule
8 Cats and dogs
9 Ermine or mink
10 Room in a harem
11 Director Howard
13 Warhol paintings, e.g.
18 Metal fastener
19 Correct, slangily
20 Longs (for)
22 Feudal tenant
23 Reeks
24 The Sunflower State
25 Imagine
27 Mineral spring
32 Ump kin
34 Paces
35 Was eaten away
39 Engaged
43 Soft leather
45 Lion's pride
47 Publications
48 "The Gold Bug" author
49 — -Locks, Florida
50 Energy unit
52 Singer Damone
53 Chariot ending
54 Dehydrated

Answer to yesterday's Puzzle





See solution tomorrow

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many

1. Pert dog of TV fame (2)
2. Ex-Yugoslav leader nixes (2)
3. Quickly stir a Frito (1)
4. Search for "Candid Camera" star (1)
5. Thin ex-wife of Nelson Mandela (2)
6. Stockholm native's jacket materials (1)
7. Inflexibility of coldness (4)

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3-4-99

SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S WORDY GURDY

1. HYPER VIPER 2. YUPPIE PUPPY 3. RIKER LIKER 4. SCANTY PANTY 5. TOASTER COASTER 6. SALLYS ALLEYS 7. QUASHES SQUASHES

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many

1. Inter a back-and-forth boat (2)
2. Shut a Valentine flower (1)
3. Amusingly clever young cat (2)
4. Eerie native American structure (2)
5. One who hits a 1920's woman (2)
6. Throwing "Twilight Zone" host Rod (2)
7. Indoctrinate stuff eroded in a storm (2)

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3-5-99

SEE SOLUTION TOMORROW

THURSDAY 4TH BORN TODAY

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999
By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are not one to make many mistakes, and you exude tremendous stability and self-confidence in public. In private, however, you often suffer from quite serious bouts of insecurity and self-doubt, punctuated by heightened feelings that you're not what you say you are. Indeed, there are times when you may be quite obsessed with the thought of being "found out" by someone. Fortunately, this is all in your mind! Your work and behavior tells the true story, and its clear to all that you are the kind of individual to consistently get things done.

You enjoy all sorts of physical activity, and you crave the outdoors. It behooves you to settle on a job that takes you out and about as often as possible, for you're not the kind to let yourself be chained to a desk all day! You can be quite romantic, and an emotional firebrand when in love.

Also born on this date are: Emilio Estefan, actor; Catherine O'Hara, actress; Jane Goodall, anthropologist and naturalist; Knute Rockne, athlete.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY 5TH BORN TODAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1999
By Stella Wilder

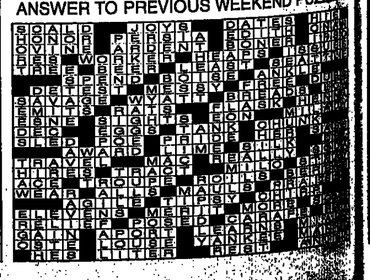
Born today you appear to be smooth, confident and easygoing but even those who know you best take it for granted that you are rarely flustered, frustrated or freaked out by the ways of the world! However, the truth is that beneath the surface you are a whirlwind of conflicting emotions and this is something you have in common with almost all of your career brethren. You know what you are doing almost all the time, but there are moments when you don't know what you're doing and you feel as you're starting from scratch, even when doing something routine.

Your weaknesses, however, are all part of your strengths. You are a "real" and down-to-earth sort of individual who refuses to adopt phony or otherwise insincere habits and behaviors. You want to be "you" at all times, no matter the consequences. You are never manipulative or malicious towards others.

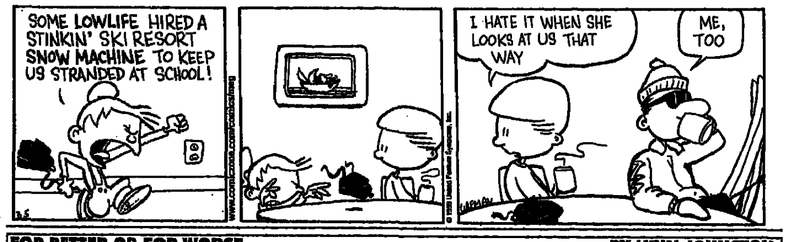
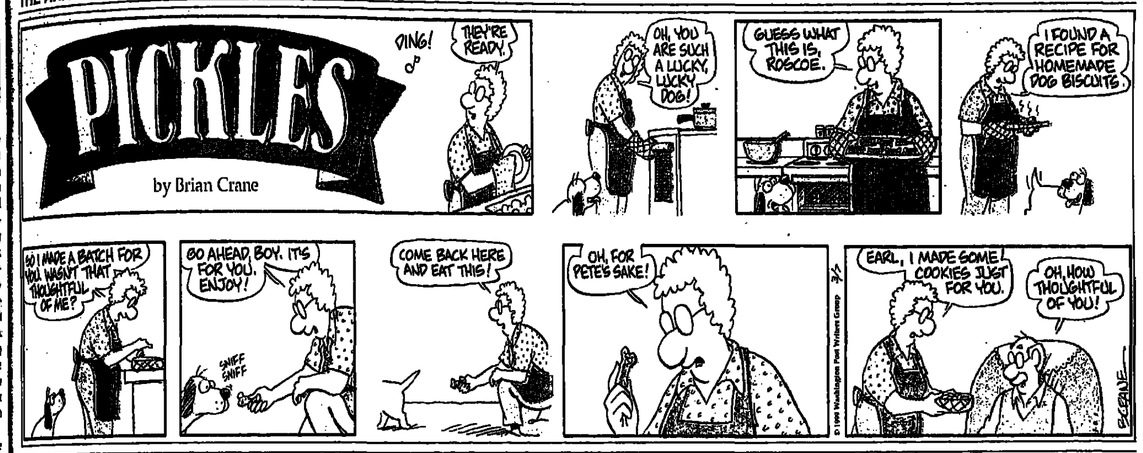
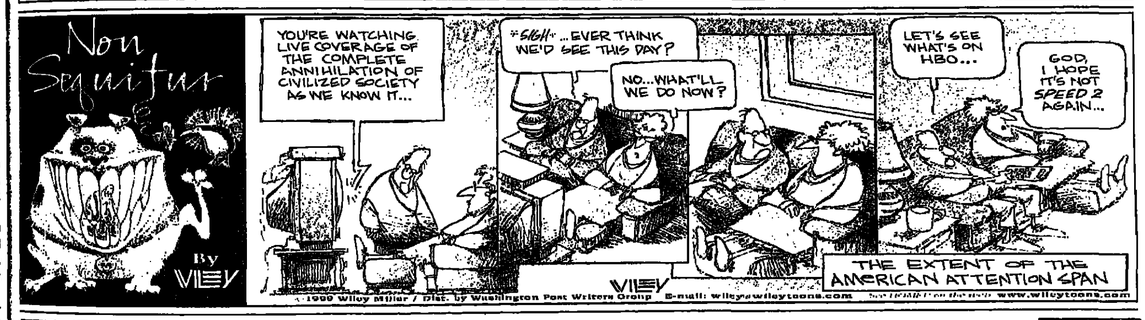
Also born on this date are: Dean Stockwell, actor; Rex Harrison, actor; Andy Gibb, singer; Jack Cassidy, actor.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS WEEKEND PUZZLE



MEG — BY GREG CURFMAN



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE — BY LYNN JOHNSTON